MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

13 MAY 1985

Shultz Tour

Jordan's King Husayn received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Aqaba 12 May following the latter's talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak earlier the same day, Amman television reported. Meanwhile, an Israeli Cabinet communique broadcast by Jerusalem radio confirmed Israel's opposition to participating in an international conference on the Middle East but stressed its readiness for direct negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that does not include participants who are committed to the Palestinian charter issued by the first PNC in 1964. While IDF radio contended that this formula would allow PNC members who disagree with the charter to participate in such negotiations, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reaffirmed his opposition to the participation of PNC members in remarks reported by ITIM 12 May. Jerusalem radio reported earlier that both Shamir and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres had told Shultz that Israel would not meet with PNC members. The Labor Alignment paper *DAVAR* stated that Peres has given Shultz a message for King Husayn in which he expresses willingness to disband the national unity government if this is necessary to begin negotiations with Jordan.

In another development concerning Shultz' visit to Jerusalem, IDF radio reported that Israeli police attributed three 12 May bomb explosions in the city to a terrorist squad taking demonstrative action against the U.S. visitor's presence, and a PLO spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio affirmed that the PLO was responsible.

Meanwhile, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf reaffirmed the PLO's insistence on participating in peace negotiations, telling the London daily *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* that the PLO rejects being represented by people unaffiliated to the organization and that it has not proposed any names for such negotiations, according to Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. Among other Arab comment related to Shultz' tour, Amman's *SAWT AL-SHA'B* stated in an 11 May editorial that the United States should make Israel look realistically and seriously at the Arab peace move, while the *JORDAN TIMES* subsequently said Shultz would be correct to assume that there is a "certain Arab sentiment" favoring a reexamination of the September 1982 Reagan plan, which remains "one of the best things" to have come out of Washington for many years. For Saudi Arabia's part, Riyadh radio said the U.S. plan for negotiations is hampered by the U.S. stand on the kind of Palestinian representation in the Jordanian-Palestinian joint delegation. Reaffirming Syria's hostility toward U.S. policy, Damascus radio warned that Shultz' offer of U.S. protection to Jordan is an attempt to concentrate a U.S. military presence near the Syrian border in preparation for a siege of Syria designed to "subjugate, pressure, and blackmail" it. Libya and Iran also broadcast hostile commentaries on the Shultz tour over voice of Greater arab homeland and Tehran radios respectively.

Jordanian-Palestinian Diplomacy

Saudi King Fahd and Jordanian King Husayn discussed "urgent" Arab issues during the latter's 11-12 May visit to Jeddah, Amman radio reported. Husayn reviewed the joint action taken by Jordan and the PLO in accordance with their 11 February agreement, and the talks also covered Saudi-Jordanian relations. As for the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in Beijing, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told his Chinese hosts in a 10 May speech broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio that he looks forward to an "active move" from the PRC, the Soviet Union, and other countries in order to help establish peace in the Middle East. During talks with 'Arafat, Communist Party Central Advisory Commission Chairman Deng Xiaoping urged his visitors to avoid "rashness" and to proceed "step by step" toward their goal, XINHUA noted. In another development concerning Jordanian-Palestinian diplomacy, the Soviet ambassador in Kuwait denied that the USSR has "apologized for not receiving" 'Arafat's delegation, according to Aden Voice of Palestine radio. Meanwhile, KUNA reported that PLO International Department chief Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Moscow 12 May in response to an official Soviet invitation.

Sudan

Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, in an interview with Paris *AL-MUSTAQBAL* published 11 May, denied "unfounded" reports that Sudan's relations with Egypt have been disturbed by its rapprochement with Libya. Asked whether Libya and Ethiopia have promised to stop supporting Colonel John Garang's Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Siwar al-Dhahab said Libya and Ethiopia have shown "good intentions" in this regard and proof of this will be provided shortly. Garang no longer has any clear pretexts to avoid meeting with the Sudanese authorities to solve the southern problem, he contended. In a related development, the chairman of the Southern Sudanese Political Association announced in Khartoum that his organization is awaiting authorization from the provisional government to contact Garang, SUNA reported. Broadcasts over the weekend by Garang's clandestine SPLA radio focused on internal divisions in the Army, contending that various officers have refused to take appointments in the south and that others have openly disagreed with TMC policies.

Meanwhile, Omdurman radio broadcast an announcement by the military authorities banning all processions and marches in Khartoum as of 12 May in order to stop the proliferation of processions that clearly violate the emergency law and threaten internal security. The communique, issued by the military commissioner of Khartoum, stated that "certain factions" have been violating democratic procedures and attempting to "impose solutions." As for the political parties, the Islamic National Front

elected Hasan al-Turabi as its secretary general during a conference concluded 11 May and called on Muslims to unite in defense of the Islamic Shari'a, SUNA reported. In administrative developments, the TMC nominated new ambassadors for Cairo, Washington, London, Bonn, Addis Ababa, and Tripoli, according to a statement by the TMC spokesman cited by the agency 10 May. An 11 May decree by the TMC chairman abolished the Grievances Commission, transferring its jurisdiction to the new appointed attorney general, SUNA noted. In a statement reported by Omdurman radio, the attorney general declared that former First Vice President 'Umar al-Tayyib will be the first member of the former regime to face trial.

Lebanon

Clashes continued in and around Beirut over the weekend causing 14 casualties 11 May, according to Beirut radio. Meanwhile, Minister Walid Junblatt reacted negatively to Elie Hubayqah's election as Lebanese Forces Executive Committee chairman, describing him as a "specialist in crime and terror" in a news conference carried by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. Junblatt dismissed the Lebanese Forces' recent stance as an effort to "gain time" to assimilate new weapons. He also confirmed that he met with the U.S. ambassador and Jazzin officials in Al-Mukhtarah 11 May to discuss peace efforts. Subsequently, Junblatt had talks in Damascus 12 May with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Radio Monte Carlo observed. He also met Lebanese presidential advisor Michel Samaha in Damascus who, according to Beirut radio, was there to discuss the possibility of a Lebanese-Syrian summit in the "next few days." Samaha's visit coincided with President Amin al-Jumayyil meeting a special envoy from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, the radio noted.

Iran

Tehran Explosion — "Agents of world oppression" were responsible for a 12 May car-bomb explosion in southern Tehran that killed 15 people and wounded 50, Tehran radio reported.

Draft — A Gendarmerie statement broadcast by Tehran radio 11 May announced that all 18-19 year old males will be called up for emergency military service.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Karmal To Visit Warsaw 'Second Half of May'
LD101632 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, heading a high-ranking party and state delegation will pay a friendly, official visit to the People's Republic of Poland in the second half of May at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers Party State Council and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Poland.

Keshtmand Addresses Kabul Party Activists
LD130551 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 12, BAKHTAR — A meeting of the party activists of the Kabul city was held here today. The main report of the meeting was read by Zohore Razemjo, alternate member of Politburo of the PDPA CC and secretary of the party committee of Kabul city. The report on behalf of the working people of Kabul city severely condemned the crimes of the Afghan counter-revolution.

It was emphasized at the meeting that the implementation of (?the construction) plan by the industrial enterprises and over 120 percent of the plan at construction enterprises during the last Afghan year (ended March 20, 1985) are an indicator of the patriotic sentiments of the workers to work hard.

Addressing the audience, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the Council of Ministers, praised the state organizations for the coordination of their daily activities. He talked about the relative progress made in the implementation of the socio-economic development plans as well as on the significance of the plans in the current Afghan year. He said that about 200 state-run stores, 70 cooperative stores and the establishment of the state health clinics were created last year.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand awarded honorary banners and cash prizes to organisations which became the first winners in the work emulation drive.

Afsotr, Afghan-Soviet Transportaton and Forwarding Company, Spinghar Construction Unit and Guzargah Textile Mill have won the first positions in the work emulation drive among others all over the country.

National Defense Minister Returns From Moscow
LD101820 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Major General Nazar Muhammad, minister of national defense, today returned to Kabul from Moscow after attending ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people over Hitlerite fascism.

7,000 Refugees Return to Paktika Province
LD120655 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Kabul, May 11, BAKHTAR — With each day that passes, Afghans who were deceived by false propaganda of their enemies and had left their homeland and country are realizing the lofty aims and truth of the April Revolution (1978) return to their homes to resume their normal life.

Seven thousand persons of Ahmadzai Kochi Tribe returned to their homes, in the north of Orgun region of Paktika Province, south of Afghanistan.

On their arrival to their homeland they were warmly received by the concerned Afghan officials.

Security Forces Capture Rebels in Takhar, Badghis
LD111725 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] During the security forces' successful operations in order to maintain peace throughout the country and to eliminate criminal rebel bands, 21 rebels who were engaged in destructive activities against our innocent people on the orders of their criminal imperialist masters were recently captured in Yangi Qal'eh District, Takhar Province, together with 20 assorted weapons and one rocket-launcher.

According to another report, as a result of successful operations by the country's courageous security forces in Badghis Province 11 rebels, including their savage ringleader Hasan Beg, were captured with their weapons.

Security Forces Mount Successful Operation
LD121851 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] As a result of a successful operation recently mounted by the heroic security forces in the villages of Paghman District, a number of savage rebels, who at the instruction of their imperialist and warmongering masters were disrupting the lives of the noble people of that district, were crushed and a number of them were captured along with their weapons.

In addition to the seized weapons a number of beds, 60 blankets, and several radio cassettes they had plundered from our toiling people, were seized.

Also a medicine store and several hideouts belonging to these savages were destroyed.

77 Killed in Bombings in Delhi, Surrounding Areas

AFP: 9 Killed

HK101532 Hong Kong AFP in English 1525 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 10 (AFP) — At least nine people were killed and 16 injured in two explosions on a bus and at a bus terminal today, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA said. At least six people were killed when a bomb went off inside a bus in New Delhi, PTI said.

A blast at a bus terminal in Haryana state killed at least three people and wounded 16, the agency added.

The blast was in Hissar, about 150 kilometers (94 miles) northwest of here.

There were no immediate reports of arrests.

Series of Explosions

BK101750 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Thirteen people were killed and several injured in a series of explosions in Delhi this evening. There were two explosions at the interestate bus terminal at 1910 [1340 GMT] and 2010 in which five people died and a number of others got injured. According to police and fire brigade sources, some explosions took place in the running DTC [Delhi Transport Corporation] buses in Sarojini Nagar, Gandhinagar, Jahangir Puri, Raghubir Nagar, and Mayapur areas. The details of the explosions are awaited.

Police officials at the interstate bus terminal claimed that they have some clues about the identity of the culprits responsible for the explosions. Railway stations and border checkposts have been alerted. Arrangement to send the stranded passengers to their destinations are being made. The injured have been admitted to hospital.

The minister of shipping and transport, Mr Z.R. Ansari, rushed to the site of the incident and visited the injured in the Safdarjung Hospital. He was accompanied by the secretary, shipping and transport, Mr Prakash Narayan, and the DTC chairman, Mr Venkat Krishnan. He has announced 10,000 rupees as ex gratia payment for the conductor, Mr Khazan Singh, who died in the incidents; 2,000 rupees each will be given to the grievously injured persons.

BBC Report

BK110119 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 11 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] We begin with the latest political violence in India. Several people have been arrested after yesterday's bomb attacks which left at least 40 people dead. Indian police suspect that the bombs were planted as part of a coordinated operation by Sikh extremists. The attacks were directed against public transport as we hear in this dispatch from Mark Tully.

[Begin recording] In Delhi itself there were explosions in two different buses of the main long district terminal killing at least six people. There were also explosions in 14 other different places in the capital. All the explosions occurred at about 1900 in the evening. According to the police, the explosive devices were hidden in transistor radios. The police have sealed off all roads out of the capital and are searching all (?car) and rail passengers. The commander of the Delhi police says six people he described as terrorists have been arrested. Entire police force is being mobilized. Outside Delhi the worst incident took place in the town of Meerut. There a bomb exploded on an express train killing six people including one child. There were also explosions in buses in three different towns in the state of Haryana which lies between Delhi and Punjab. In one incident a Sikh is reported to have strapped an explosive device to himself.

Earlier in the day a prominent Hindu politician was shot dead in the town of Hoshiarpur in the Punjab. Police suspect Sikh extremists were responsible for that murder too. When news of the killing of the Hindu politician spread, angry crowds gathered on the street. One Sikh was killed and one seriously injured. A curfew was imposed.

Because these incidents took place, the prime minister had already canceled a visit to the northeast of India. After news of the murder of the Punjabi politician, the president of India announced that he was canceling his visit to Zimbabwe and Zambia due to start on Monday. The president's office gave as a reason urgent affairs of state. [End recording]

All Police Ordered on Duty

HK110404 Hong Kong AFP in English 0400 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 11 (AFP) — The government today cancelled all police leave and ordered policemen to report to duty immediately after numerous overnight bomb explosions in three states and the Indian capital left more than 50 dead and 300 injured, officials said.

The government believes that Sikh separatists campaigning for secession in the northern state of Punjab were behind the explosions which hit Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and the Indian capital.

Officials said the overnight bombings in the three states and the capital left more than 50 dead and 300 injured, but no breakdown of the figures was immediately available.

The state-owned radio repeatedly broadcast the government order cancelling all police leave as paramilitary troops descended on New Delhi and on other affected areas, the officials aid. The government also ordered a massive crackdown on Sikh militants and the radio said more than 100 of them had been arrested.

The administration here imposed prohibitory orders on this capital of six million people as a precautionary measure against retaliation by the Hindus, officials said.

The Army was put under alert here and in Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, officials said.

Eyewitnesses here said there was visible tension in the Indian capital where few Sikhs could be seen in the streets. New Delhi's chief administrator, M.M.K. Walki, today appealed to people over the radio not to retaliate against the bomb blasts.

The wave of bombings came after violence broke out in Hoshiarpur in Punjab as angry crowds protested the shooting death there earlier in the day by suspected Sikh militants of a prominent right-wing Hindu political leader, Balbir Singh.

Last year, more than 2,950 people — mainly Sikhs — were killed in a Hindu retaliation after two Sikh guards assassinated former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi here on October 31.

The bombs yesterday, hidden in radio transistors, exploded in state-run buses, crowded market areas, residential blocks and bus stations.

A section of India's 16 million Sikhs are campaigning for greater political autonomy of their state in India's north.

A militant section among them are waging a violent campaign for secession and the formation of a separate Sikh state.

Army Called in

HK110408 Hong Kong AFP in English 0402 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 11 (AFP) — The Army was called in here today after fresh bomb explosions killed nine people this morning, the city's police chief said.

This brings to more than 60 the death toll in bomb attacks by suspected Sikh separatists in New Delhi and in three Indian states since last night, officials said.

'More Than 40' Killed

BK110434 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] More than 40 persons were killed and several injured in the series of explosions in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and the Union Territory of Delhi. A series of explosions took place soon after sunset yesterday in the capital. Two explosions took place in the interstate bus terminus and one in a house in Gandhinagar. Several explosions also took place in running DTC [Delhi Transport Corporation] buses in different areas including Sarojininagar, Raghubirnagar, Timarpur, (Kingsley camp,) Gandhinagar, Jehangirpuri, and Mahapuri. Official sources told our correspondent this morning that at least 25 persons were killed. Several have been injured and admitted to hospitial.

Police and security forces have launched a massive hunt to nab the terrorists responsible for the bomb explosions. The authorities said that a large number of suspects in (?these) believed to have links with the terrorists have been rounded up and are being questioned. A large number places in the capital were raided and searches were carried out throughout the night. Forty-nine miscreants have been arrested so far. Similar actions have been launched in Haryana and Punjab.

The Army has been alerted in the capital to help the Delhi administration in maintaining law and order. Police sources told our correspondent that Army patrolling has started in several localities. The lieutenant governor, Mr M.M.K. Wali, has described yesterday's blasts as organized attempt on the part of extremist elements to disturb civic life. He appealed to the people to remain calm and avoid any kind of reaction. The lieutenant governor said that the Delhi administration is in full control of the overall law and order situation and will deal with the miscreants mercilessly. He also advised people not to touch or handle any unfamiliar object left in DTC buses or at other places.

DTC sources said that the city bus services and DTC interstate services are plying as usual this morning. Reports from Chandigarh say a series of bomb blasts took place inside roadways buses at different places in Haryana. Eleven persons are reported killed and 50 injured in the incidents which took place in Hissar, Sirsa, Kurukshetra, and Ambala. The injured have been admitted to hospital. About 50 miscreants have been detained at various places for interrogation following a massive hunt. Police patrolling at railway stations and bus stands have been intensified.

In Punjab, hunt for the terrorists also continued last night. In Ludhiana, a police party raided some hideouts of extremists and seized large quantity of explosives and some firearms. An official spokesman said that the seizure includes a sten gun and some countrymade bombs.

In Uttar Pradesh, seven persons were killed and seven others injured in an explosion in a bogie of the Himachal express when the train entered Meerut city railway station.

The general secretary of the Delhi Gurdwara Prabandhak [Delhi Sikh Temple Management] committee, Mr Sucha Singh, has strongly condemned the bomb blast that took place last night in the capital and elesewhere. In a statement, he said that the Sikhs are most peace loving and patriotic people firmly committed to national unity and integrity. He demanded that culprits must be apprehended and a thorough judicial enquiry be held.

11 More Killed

BK110751 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Eleven more persons were killed in bomb explosions in south and west Delhi this morning. Six others were injured. The incidents occurred in Madangiri, Kalkaji, Chitranjan Park, and Janakpuri areas. The Delhi police chief told All India Radio correspondent that the police have recovered three unexploded transistor-like crude bombs and detonated them. The police have appealed to people not to touch or handle any unfamiliar object lying in roads, buses, or any other public place. Parents have been advised to instruct their children about this. Life in the city is normal, with the public transport system operating as usual. The police sources said 59 suspects have been rounded up and their

interrogation has led to some vital clues about the explosions. One hundred and ten bad characters have been arrested by the Delhi police.

As already reported, over 40 people were killed in a series of bomb explosions in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi yesterday evening. The police and security forces have launched a massive hunt to nab the terrorists. Patrolling in sensitive areas in Delhi have been intensified. Leave of all police personnel have been canceled and they have been asked to report to duty immediately. The Army has been alerted. Army pickets have been set up in various areas and troops are patrolling different parts of the capital. According to agency reports a large number of persons were taken into custody in Punjab and Haryana in late night raids.

The mayor of Delhi, Mr Mohinder Singh Sathi, and four other office bearers of the Delhi municipal corporation have condemned the indiscriminate killings of innocent persons in violent incidents in Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and other places. In a statement, they have said this is a calculated move of the extremists and antinationals to disrupt communal harmony. They have appealed to the people to stand united and foil the attempts of disruptive forces.

50 Arrested in Haryana

BK110850 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] In Haryana, 50 people have been arrested following raids in various places in connection with yesterday's bomb explosions. The police said that they have also recovered 10 bombs from Hissar bus stand where explosions occurred last night. In Chandigarh, the adminsitration has banned carrying of any handbags or packets in cinema houses. Police patrolling has been intensified at railway stations and other public places. Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons] has been promulgated in the union territory for a month.

The Haryana governor, Mr S.M.H. Burney, today returned to Chandigarh from Delhi and reviewed the law and order situation in the state. He appealed to the people to cooperate with the authorities in maintaining peace and harmony in the state. The Haryana chief minister, who is in the United States, in a message said that law enforcing authorities have been instructed to deal firmly with antinational elements who are trying to disturb the peace in the state.

Sikh Leaders Condemn Bombings

BK110902 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The series of bomb blasts has been strongly condemned by several Sikh leaders. The president of the All India Sikh Forum, Mr Rajinder Singh Dolt, in a statement said the Sikhs want to live in peace and harmony with other communities. The convenor of Delhi state Akali Dal, Professor Ajaib Singh, and other prominent Sikh leaders including Professor Jaspal Singh, Professor Rajinder Singh, and Mr Paramjit Singh Serna, said violence has no place in a democracy. They appealed to the people to maintain communal harmony. The mayor of Delhi, Mr Mohinder Singh Sathi, and four other mebers of the Delhi municipal corporation have condemned indiscriminate killings of innocent people in Delhi, Haryana, and other places.

The Punjab unit of the Janata Party has expressed deep concern at the resurgence of terrorism in the state. The Communist Party of India-Marxist has said the monstrous killing of several innocent persons in Delhi and elsewhere is a new offensive of the secessionist forces to stall a settlement of the Punjab issue. In a statement in New Delhi today, it says this is a deliberate act of provocation to divide people on communal line. The Lok Dal vice president, Mr H.N. Bahuguna, has also condemned the violent incidents. He urged the government to take immediate steps to restore normalcy in the affected areas.

Akali Dal President Resigns

BK111227 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 11 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] Police in the Indian capital, Delhi, are continuing their search for Sikh extremists who are believed to be responsible for the wave of explosions in the capital and nearby states. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has discussed the crisis with senior Cabinet colleagues, the Army is standing by, and the president of the Sikh religious party, Akali Dal, has resigned. We received this dispatch from our Delhi correspondent Mark Tully a short time ago:

[Begin recording] Police have now searched 12 temples in their hunt for Sikh extremists. About 200 arrests have been made; most of them are Sikhs who come from two of the districts of Punjab on the border with Pakistan. The police have also found four unexploded bombs in Delhi. They were defused by the Army.

The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, called an emergency meeting of the top Cabinet committee — the Committee for Political Affairs — to consider the crisis. The home minister is expected to broadcast to the nation early this evening. It is thought that he will appeal for calm. So far, there is calm in the capital. Although the Army has moved out of its barracks, it is not much in evidence on the streets. Buses and other forms of public transport are plying in spite of the fact that most of yesterday's bombs were planted on buses. Sikhs, easily recognizable by their beards and turbans, are still to be seen. [End recording]

Explosions in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh

BK111251 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] In Rajasthan, two persons were killed and one injured in bomb explosions last evening at Hanumangarh town in Sri Ganganagar District and Mendawar in Alwar District. According to the police, one person was killed in an explosion in a bus

plying on Hissar-Hanumangarh route. In the second explosions in Mendawar, the driver of a bus was killed as he picked up a packet left behind in the bus. The police has been put on general alert in the state.

In Uttar Pradesh, 16 persons were killed and 10 injured in a series of bomb explosions in 5 districts last evening. The state home secretary told All India Radio Lucknow correspondent the police have launched a massive drive to apprehend the culprits. The police and the security forces have launched a massive hunt to nab the terrorists.

In Delhi, about 80 suspects have been rounded up and their interrogation has led to some vital clues about the explosions. In Punjab, about 350 suspected terrorists were arrested by police in raids last night and this morning. In Haryana, 50 people have been arrested following raids at various places in connection with yesterday's bomb explosions. Police claim to have recovered 10 bombs from Hissar bus stand, where explosions occurred last night.

Zail Singh Comments

BK111312 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has expressed shock at the killing of innocent persons in bomb blasts in Delhi and other northern states. In a statement, he condemned the cult of violence and expressed deep sympathy to the bereaved families.

The president of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Master Tara Singh Group, Jathedar Rachhpal Singh, has condemned the bomb explosion. He told newsmen in New Delhi today that the government should take stern action against those who are found responsible for this. A spokesman of the Delhi unit of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Longowal [faction], Bakhshi Jugdev Singh, in a statement condemned the bomb blasts that took place in various parts of the capital yesterday. The Lok Dal vice president, Mr H.N. Bahuguna, has appealed to the people to maintain peace and communal harmony. Talking to newsmen in New Delhi, he said violence helps only those who want the country to disintegrate.

Chavan Addresses Nation

BK111519 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi 1452 GMT 11 May 85

[11 May address to the nation by Indian Home Minister S.B. Chavan — recorded, in English]

[Text] Friends: Until yesterday, terrorist activities were generally restricted to Punjab. Since yesterday afternoon, several dastardly and heinous acts have been perpetrated by terrorists in several towns of Haryana, union territory of Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh. Several innocent citizens traveling in buses and by trains have been killed and maimed. Several others have been killed and injured in explosions which have taken place near their homes and hearths.

The pattern which has emerged conclusively proves that there is a coordinated well-planned operation that has been launched to terrorize, to create fear in the minds of the citizens, and in order to disrupt communal peace and harmony that has existed so far. state governments and administrations of Delhi and Chandigarh have taken very prompt action to apprehend suspects who are perpetrating these heinous acts. A number of persons with links with extremists, a number of antisocial elements, have been put behind bar. This action is continuing. We are now witnessing a new overt phase of terrorism. There is no doubt that some antinational elements who do not wish the political process to begin for the solution of the Punjab problem are indulging in these provocative acts. Their obvious intention is to create panic and to disturb communal harmony that has prevailed so far amongst Hindus and Sikhs.

While the administration is doing all that is necessary, I appeal to all to face the situation with calm and without panic. I appeal to all to cooperate with the authorities in the task of maintaining law and order and apprehending the miscreants and in desisting from any panicky reaction.

The government is determined to deal with the situation very firmly. Let no one mistake that the measures that we initiated the last 2 months to begin the process of normalization are a sign of weakness. We have yet to receive a positive response to our steps. Now that terrorism has surfaced openly, it is a challenge to the [Sikh] leadership to wake up and understand the immense damage they are causing to the nation. I trust that even at this stage they will realize the grave implications of their actions and extremist forces that they have indirectly unleashed. If these forces are not contained and senseless killing of innocent people stopped forthwith, consequences will be grim. The government will not hesitate to take sternest measures to restore peace and to maintain law and order.

Longowal, Tohra Resign

BK111558 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Sant Harchand Singh Longowal has resigned from the presidentship of the Akali Dal. In a handwritten statement read out to newsmen by Mr Balwant Singh Ramuwalia, former MP, in Chandigarh today, Sant Longowal said that he has decided not to hold any office in future, nor will he remain a member of any committee of the party.

Sant Longowal said he has been very unhappy over some selfish elements in the party that are trying to bring dishonor to the Sikhs and to split the party. Sant Longowal said he has always worked for the unity and brotherhood and for a solution of the problems through peaceful means. He will continue to do so, he added.

According to agency reports, the president of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temple Management] Committee [SPGC], Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra, today submitted his resignation in Amritsar. His resignation as not accepted by the executives of the SGPC.

'Over 70' Killed

BK111619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 85

[Excerpts] Over 70 persons have been killed and more than 100 injured in bomb blasts at various places in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Rajasthan since yesterday.

In a series of bomb explosions in the capital, 40 persons have been killed and 45 injured since last evening. Speaking to newsmen, the Delhi police chief, Mr Ved Marwa, said 19 explosions have occurred, including 5 since midnight in different parts of the union territory. Eleven persons died in bomb explosions today. The incidents occurred in Madangir, Kalkaji, Chitranjan Park, and Janakpuri areas. Ten explosive devices, including 2 round-shape objects near the Parliament house, have been found intact which have since been defused by the anti-explosive squad. Mr Marwa said a number of possible hideouts of the extremists including religious places have been searched. Two hundred and four persons have been arrested and some of them interrogated intensively. The police, he said, are working on definite clues and the areas of investigation have been narrowed down.

About the preventive action, Mr Marwa said the police force has been mobilized to the fullest extent. Security arrangements have been tightened at all sensitive places and every vehicle going out of Delhi or coming to Delhi is being searched. Army has been asked to stand by. It has established pickets and is patrolling the city.

In reply to a question, Mr Marwa said the public has fully cooperated and has maintained communal harmony. Life in the city is normal with the public transport system operating as usual.

In Uttar Pradesh, 16 persons were killed and 10 injured in a series of bomb explosions in 5 cities last evening. The state home secretary told All India Radio Lucknow correspondent that 10 persons were killed in 2 separate explosions which occurred in a coach of Himachal express and in a bus. Explosions were also reported from Moradabad, Unnao, Aligarh, and Rampur.

In Haryana, 11 persons were killed and about 50 injured in a series of explosions at Hissar, Sirsa, Ambaka, and Kurukshetra yesterday.

In Punjab, about 400 persons have been taken into custody since last night in an intensified drive against terrorists. An official spokesman told our Chandigarh correspondent that about 140 arrests have been made in Amritsar District alone. In Haryana, the number of persons taken into custody in connection with yesterday's explosion in the state has gone up to 200. A police spokesman said the raids are continuing.

Akali Leaders Issue Statement

BK111622 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Three senior Akali leaders — Mr Prakash Singh Badal, Mr Balwant Singh, and Mr Balwant Singh Ramuwalia — have said the widespread violence and blasts were aimed at destabilizing the country. In a joint statement they said that the Akali Dal strongly condemns these actions of anti-Indian forces. The head priest of the Takht Harimandir Patna Saheb [Sikh temple], Jathedar Bhai Man Singh, has demanded an immediate meeting of the Jathedars [religious leaders] of all Takhts to issue a hukumnama [decree] condemning yesterday's violence. In a telegram to the head priest of the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion], Jathedar Kirpal Singh, he suggested that the hukumnama should be issued in the name of entire panth [Sikh religion] calling upon the true disciples of the Guru [Nanak] to come forward to expose the forces of disintegration. The president of the Shiromani Akali Dal, Master Tara Singh group, Jathedar Rachhpal Singh, told newsmen in New Delhi that the government should take stern action against all those who are found responsible for this.

Gandhi Directs Forces To Stem Violence

BK111739 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The prime minister has directed the security forces to put down sternly the violence that has been unleashed by antinational terrorists. A spokesman of the prime minister's office said that Mr Rajiv Gandhi is keeping a round-the-clock watch on the situation. The prime minister hoped that the people will remain calm and maintain communal peace. Mr Rajiv Gandhi offered his sympathies to the families of the victims and wished speedy recovery of those who were injured.

Death Toll Put at 77

BK120421 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] No fresh incidents have been reported from Delhi and adjoining states last night after 2 days of transistor bomb attacks in which at least 77 persons were killed and more than 100 injured. In the capital 40 persons were killed. While 24 were killed in different parts of Uttar Pradesh, the death toll in Haryana stood at 11. Two persons died in Rajasthan.

The prime minister has directed the security forces to strongly put down the violence unleashed by antinational terrorists. A spokesman of the prime minister's office said that Mr Rajiv Gandhi is keeping a round-the-clock watch on the situation. While offering his sympathies to the families of the victims and wishing speedy recovery of those injured, the prime minister hoped that the people will remain calm and maintain communal harmony. Official sources in New Delhi said that clues to the explosions in Delhi and elsewhere are being discovered. A special cell is being set up in the CBI [Central Bureau of Investigation] to take an overall view of the investigation. It may be recalled that the Delhi police chief, Ved Marwa, told newsmen last evening that more than 200 persons have been arrested. They are being interrogated intensively. He said the police are working on definite clues. Patrolling is continuing in different localities of the capital. In Haryana, a large number of persons have been taken into custody. Special police arrangements and patrolling has been made at all places including railway stations and bus stops.

In Uttar Pradesh, security measures have been tightened at railway stations, bus stands, and other public places. The state government has announced an ex gratia payment of 5,000 rupees each to the next of kin killed in the explosion.

The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has condemned the acts of terrorism committed by disruptive forces in Punjab and elsewhere. In a telecast over Doordarshan [television] last night, he said sheer frustration due to the political initiative taken by the prime minister in solving the Punjab problem has been the main cause of trouble.

The union agriculture minister, Mr Bhuta Singh, has said that the bomb blasts well planned by the extremists are intended to provoke large-scale communal trouble. Addressing a congregation at the (Rikawkunj) Gurdwara [Sikh temple] in the capital, he warned the disruptionist elements that the cowardly acts will in no way deter the government from its determination to safeguard the unity and integrity of the country.

The representative assembly of 125 Gurusingh Sabhas [Sikh religious associations] of Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh who gathered at the Gurdwara passed a formal resolution condemning the bomb blasts. The gathering also extended its full support to the government for peaceful settlement of political issues.

The West Bengal chief minister, Mr Jothi Basu, condemning the cowardly attacks on innocent citizens, said these terrorists are being actively supported by imperialists and their stooges.

The Janata Party president, Mr Chandrasekhar, described the blasts as a tragedy. He said the Punjab problem could be solved only by mobilizing public opinion. Genuine demands could not be achieved by violence.

The All India Youth Congress-I president, Mr Anant Sharma, says it is unfortunate that such incidents should occur at a time when the government is taking initiatives to resolve the Punjab tangle.

In Punjab, partial to complete bundh [strike] was observed in several towns of the state yesterday in protest against the killing of the state unit president of the Lok Dal and former MP Mr Balbir Singh. The bundh passed off peacefully.

In Hoshiarpur, curfew was relaxed by the district administration for 4 hours from 1100 [0530 GMT] to 1500 to enable mourners to participate in the cremation of Mr Balbir Singh. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, the curfew in the town imposed after the killing of Mr Balbir Singh on Friday morning will continue till further orders.

Senior Akali leader and former chief minister Mr Prakash Singh Badal has resigned as the leader of the legislative wing of the Akali Dal and decided to have no connections with various committees of the party. In a statement in Chandigarh, Mr Badal said he will however continue to serve the party as a primary member only. It may be recalled that Mr Harchand Singh Longowal has already resigned from the presidentship of the Akali Dal. The SGPC [Sikh Temple Management Committee] president Mr G.S. Tohra, has also submitted his resignation. However, it has not been accepted by the executive of the SGPC so far.

AFP: Rao Returns to New Delhi

HK120640 Hong Kong AFP in English 0619 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] New Delhi, May 12 (AFP) — Security forces threw a tight security net over the Indian capital today following a spate of bomb attacks by suspected Sikh militants in which almost 80 people died.

The official death toll in the bombings late Friday and early yesterday was 77, but this was likely to rise, hospital sources said, as many of the injured were in serious condition.

No further bomb attacks have been reported since yesterday, police said. Some 100 blasts had ripped through crowded buses, a train, parks, residential areas, busy markets and bus terminals in the capital and three other states.

The Indian Army was ordered into New Delhi yesterday and security forces have thrown a tight net over the city with all exit and entry points sealed or heavily patrolled.

Police arrested more than 1,500 suspects after the bombings in the capital and in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan.

Mr P.V. Ramasimha Rao, the defence minister, cut short a visit to the offshore territory, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and returned to the capital overnight. He was to attend a high-level meeting reviewing the situation following the bombings, official source said.

Sikh separatists today threatened political leaders with "dire consequences" if they opposed Sikhs, while highly reliable sources in the government said they did not rule out attacks on political leaders and other prominent figures.

An anonymous caller claiming to be speaking on behalf of a Sikh militant organization, Babbar Khalsa, telephoned the UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) office saying the organization had prepared a "new hit list," UNI said.

The caller, speaking in English, said that anyone who opposed the Sikhs would face dire consequences.

The Babbar Khalsa was alleged to have carried out several killings during the peak of a Sikh autonomy campaign centred on Punjab in 1983-84.

Informed sources said its strength was not immediately known, but it was believed that the group's leadership and many of its militants were killed during an Indian Army assault on Sikhism's holiest shrine, the Golden Temple, in Amritsar in June.

More than 650 people were killed in the operation, which was launched to flush out Sikh militants entrenched in the shrine. Indian newspapers today carried front page editorials condemning the bomb attacks, which spread fear in the capital, home of

about six million people. *THE TIMES OF INDIA* called the attacks "a sinister phase", while the *NATIONAL HERALD* said that with the bombings, "extremists (were) playing with fire."

Army Patrolling Continues

BK120805 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] No fresh incidents of bomb explosion have been reported in Delhi during the last 24 hours. Intensive patrolling by the Army and the police is continuing. Meanwhile, the commissioner of police has announced a reward of 1 lakh rupees to any person who gives information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the explosion.

The prime minister has directed the security forces to strongly put down the violence unleashed by antinational terrorists. While offering his sympathies to the families of the victims and wishing speedy recovery of those injured, the prime minister hoped that the people will remain calm and maintain communal harmony.

Official sources in New Delhi said that clues to the explosives in Delhi and elsewhere have been discovered. A special cell is being set up in the CBI [Central Investigation Bureau] to take an overall view of the investigation.

In Haryana and Uttar Pradesh, security measures have been strengthened at railway stations, bus stands, and other public places.

The Janata party leader, Mr Madhu Dandavate, has condemned the sudden spurt in the terrorist activities, particularly the series of explosions in Haryana, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh during the last 2 days. Speaking to newsmen in Chandigarh, he welcomed the former Punjab Chief Minister Mr Prakash Singh Badal's statement that the forces enimical to India should be expelled by the government.

Spokesman on Baggage Restrictions

BK120905 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] A Delhi Transport Corporation [DTC] spokesman has clarified that there is no restriction on carrying any baggage in the buses. However, if the conductor or any DTC officials have any ground for suspicion, they can check the baggage.

Opposition Calls General Strike

HK120931 Hong Kong AFP in English 0902 GMT 12 May 85

[Excerpt] New Delhi, May 12 (AFP) — The right-wing Hindu-dominated BJP Party today called for a general strike tomorrow to protest the bomb attacks, a party spokesman said.

Traders said they would respond to the call, which was endorsed by the New Delhi branch of the Sikh Political Party, the Akali Dal, a party spokesman said.

Informed sources said that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party might also support the strike call.

Police said there were no reports of new violence today in New Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana, where some 100 blasts had ripped through crowded buses, a train, parks, residential areas, busy markets and bus teminals.

President on 'Disruptive Forces'

BK121551 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has called upon the people to maintain unity, peace, and amity in the country. Inaugurating an exhibtion on Kushan sculptures from Sanghol in Punjab in New Delhi today, the president said disruptive forces will be dealt with severely and nobody will be allowed to retard the progress of the country in any way. The president said the petty squabbles and bickerings should be stopped for creating a peaceful atmosphere in the country.

Regarding the exhibiton, he said people should be proud of the rich cultural heritage of Punjab and its great saints. Sixty-four Kushan sculptures of the Mathura school found at Sanghol are on display at the exhibition.

Police Commissioner Comments

BK121605 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] No fresh incidents of bomb explosions have been reported from Delhi and adjoining states during the last 24 hours. The acting commissioner of police, Mr Ved Marwa, said this evening that the police is acting on definite clues to solve the case of bomb blasts.

Addressing a press conference, he said a house in the city was raided this afternoon. Three persons were arrested. Mr Marwa, however, declined to disclose the names of the culprits as this might affect further investigations into the conspiracy, which has wide ramifications.

Mr Marwa said the death toll in Delhi has gone up to 44. He appealed to the people to maintain peace and communal harmony.

Mr Marwa said police today recovered two bombs from East Patel Nagar and in Sabzi Mandi [in Delhi]. They were defused.

The Delhi police has also announced a reward of 1 lakh rupees to any person who gives information leading to the arrest of those responsible for the explosions. About 250 persons have been taken into custody and are being interrogated. The Central Bureau of Investigation is also working to find out clues to the explosions in Delhi and neighboring states.

Punjab, Uttar Pradesh Quiet

BK121619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1533 GMT 12 May 85

[Excerpts] In Punjab, security forces are maintaining strict vigil on the situation following bomb explosions in Delhi and neighboring states. An official spokesman told AIR [All India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent that no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in the state. Police have apprehended about 650 suspects form different parts of the state.

All shops in Dhariwal town near Gurdaspur opened today. The shops remained closed during the last 5 days following the recent shootout near the town in which three persons were killed.

The curfew in Hoshiarpur has been extended till 0800 tomorrow. It was relaxed twice today from 0600 to 0800 in the morning and 1600 to 1900 in the evening.

In Uttar Pradesh, no incident of explosion has been reported from any part of the state today. The chief minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, who returned from Moscow last night, reviewed the situation in the state with his Cabinet colleagues and senior civil and police officials in Lucknow today. The chief minister later told newsmen that a strict vigil is being maintained on all the sensitive places. He said all the districts have been alerted and orders have been issued to seal the border of the state so that the terrorists will not infiltrate.

Twenty-two people have died in different explosions in the state yesterday. The state government has sanctioned 5,000 rupees each to the members of the bereaved family and 1,000 rupees each to the injured.

The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has said the recent violent incidents have shown total cynical disregard for human life. In a statement in Chandigarh this evening, Mr Arjun Singh described the universal horror and condemnation expressed by all sections of society as an anchor of hope. He appealed to all leaders of democratic forces in the state to jointly chalk out strategies and programs to combat such violence.

The Haryana chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, has appealed to the people to maintain peace and communal harmony at all cost. Strongly condemning bomb explosions in the state and other parts of northern India. He said some disrupting forces are trying to destabilize the country, but these forces will be dealt with firmly and crushed forever.

'More Than 1,000' Arrested

BK121745 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] The investigating agencies probing into the series of bomb explosions in Delhi and other parts of northern India have obtained vital clues in tracing out the culprits. Official sources said in New Delhi today that more than 1,000 suspected terrorists have been arrested in Delhi, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan following the bomb explosion incidents beginning on Friday evening. Sustained interrogation of the arrested persons is going on. The sources further said that special investigating agencies have been sent to various places to follow up the available information. The sources added that a special cell is coordinating with the various agencies now looking into the incidents both in Delhi and other places.

Meanwhile, steps have been taken to maintain strong vigilance on the borders of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh which had been the scene of terrorist activity.

Arrests Continue

BK120853 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0832 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] In Punjab, one terrorist was killed in an encounter with the police near Jullundur last night. A police spokesman said at Chandigarh today that the terrorist and his accomplice were trying to escape after snatching a scooter. They were challenged by a police party and in an exchange of fire one of the terrorists was killed. The other escaped after abandoning the scooter. One foreign-made revolver and some cartridges were recovered from the killed terrorist.

Meanwhile, the number of arrests in the state since the launching of the intensified drive on Friday night has gone up to 650. A police spokesman told AIR [ALL India Radio] Chandigarh correspondent this afternoon that the maximum number of over 180 arrests have been made in Amritsar district alone. The spokesman said that the situation in the state is peaceful and under control.

In Haryana, about 100 persons have been rounded up in connection with the explosions in the state on Friday. The Chandigarh police has arrested about 35 persons.

In Hoshiarpur, curfew was relaxed for 2 hours from 0600 to 0800 this morning to enable people to buy essential commodities.

BBC on Pakistani Role

BK130114 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 13 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] We turn now to India and the aftermath of the wave of bomb explosions in the capital Delhi and other parts of northern India. As the search goes on for those responsible, the police say they made progress in unraveling a conspiracy behind the bombing, and a Sikh member of Parliament has said he had information 5 days before the explosions that the Sikh extremist movement had been infiltrated by some Pakistanis who reached Delhi and he had passed this information on to the government. From Delhi, Mark Tully:

[Begin recording] The acting police commissioner, Mr Ved Marwa, said that vital progress has been made following the arrest of three people he called Sikh terrorists in a house in central Delhi. They resisted arrest, and four policemen received

knife injuries. Mr Marwa told reporters he had orders not to give any more information because the conspiracy had widespread ramifications and it would not be in the interest of the investigation to divulge details. He has reported the breakthrough to the home minister. More than 1,000 people have now been arrested throughout north India in connection with the explosions; 245 have been arrested in Delhi alone. No more explosions have been reported, but police did recover two more unexploded bombs in the capital, which they defused.

A Sikh member of Parliament, Mr Khushwant Singh, has said that he passed information about Pakistanis who had infiltrated the Sikh extremist movement to the prime minister 5 days before the explosions. According to his information, the Pakistanis have reached Delhi. The Army is still patrolling in parts of Delhi.

The overstretched police force now has to face the problem of a bundh or shutdown called by the right wing Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party or BJP. The bundh is in protest against the explosions. The authorities fear that it might spark off violence, and they say they have tried to persuade the BJP to call it off. But the BJP leader told me that there had been no approach from the authorities about the bundh. [End recording]

Investigation Continues

BK130327 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 May 85

[Excerpts] Investigating agencies probing into the series of bomb explosions in Delhi and other parts of northern India have obtained vital clues in tracing out the culprits.

It may be recalled that the Delhi police yesterday afternoon raided a house in the capital. Three extremists were arrested. During the raid, the police had to face an encounter with the extremists in which two subinspectors and a constable were injured. The acting police commissioner, Mr Ved Marwa, told newsmen that they received knife wounds during the scuffle. The police team seized a 9-mm pistol from the extremists. The acting police commissioner said that he will not be able to give details of the raid as it might hamper further investigations of the case which have wide ramifications.

No incident of bomb blast has been reported in Delhi or any neighboring states during the last 36 hours. Steps have been taken to maintain strong vigilance on the borders of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh.

The acting president of the Takht Patna Saheb [Sikh temple], Mr Joginder Singh Jogi, has said that killings of innocent persons by terrorists through bomb explosions were brutal. He said it is a calculated move to foil a peaceful settlement of the Punjab issue. In Punjab, the Sanatan Dharam Pratinidhi Sabha and the state Mahavier Dal [religious groups] in a joint statement in Jullundur said the killings in Punjab and outside are aimed at disturbing communal harmony in the state. The president of the Khalsa Birandari [Sikh organization], Mr H.S. Kohli, has also appealed to people to maintain peace and communal harmony at all costs. The Bar Council of Delhi has urged the government to take stern action against the culprits. The Mahila [women] Congress-I, condemning the recent violence, said the disruptive and antinational forces are trying to create an atmosphere of terror in the country. It appealed to the people to work for peace and harmony.

Delhi police have made adequate arrangements to prevent any untoward incidents during the 1-day bundh [strike] call in the capital by the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] today. Prohibitory orders clamped during the bomb explosions continue. Full scale mobilization of police forces has been ordered to maintain law and order.

Parliament Discusses Blasts

BK130802 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Parliament has begun a special discussion on the series of bomb explosions that occurred in Delhi and adjoining states on Friday and Saturday, killing a large number of people. The Lok Sabha suspended the question hour to take up the discussions. As soon as the house assembled, members from both sides demanded a discussion on the incidents. The speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, said there is unanimity in the house to discuss the matter; he would allow a special discussion under Rule 193. Expressing grief over the killing of many innocent persons, including women and children in the blasts, Mr Jakhar described them as senseless and dastardly acts. The house stood in silence for a short while to express its grief.

Gandhi Alleges 'Foreign Hand'

BK131258 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, announced in the Lok Sabha today that government would come forward with a legislation in a day or 2 to fight terrorism effectively. Intervening in a special discussion on the recent bomb blasts in the capital and some other parts of northern India, he said the government faced certain restrictions at present in apprehending terrorists with speed. He made it clear that the government would be very firm where unity and integrity of the country are concerned. The prime minister said it is for the first time that some members of the Akali Dal have come out openly against terrorism.

The prime minister told the house that there is a foreign hand behind these incidents, but it does not help ignoring this or giving it too much importance, pretending as though it is the only problem.

Mr Gandhi said that the country is facing terrorism for the first time, particularly during the last 2 or 3 years. But last week, it took a new turn, a very serious turn, with extremists laying booby traps for people to pick them up.

Referring to the reported decision of the Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak [Sikh Temples Management] Committee to demolish the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion in Amritsar] and rebuild it, Mr Gandhi said it is entirely their own business. They are welcome to do it and we should not interfere. Mr Rajiv

Gandhi made it clear that violence has no place in our democracy. He said the recent acts of violence are acts of cowardice and we must fight them with all the strength at our command.

AFP: General Strike Begins

HK130454 Hong Kong AFP in English 0441 GMT 13 May

[Text] New Delhi, May 13 (AFP) — The Indian capital was calm today as a general strike called by the right-wing BJP party began here in protest against a series of weekend bomb attacks by suspected Sikh separatists, eyewitnesses and domestic news agencies said.

BJP volunteers were seen setting up road blocks to stop state-run buses from operating, and domestic news agencies said security forces, including the Indian Army, stood on full alert here and in about a dozen Indian cities as a precautionary measure.

Although there were no reports of violence here and the administration decided to run the city's transport, trading centres looked deserted in many parts of the city, eyewitnesses said.

At least 84 people have died in the series of bomb blasts here and in three Indian states — Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Rajasthan — which began Friday and continued until yesterday, domestic agencies said. Two people died in bomb lasts in Uttar Pradesh yesterday.

The BJP called the general strike today in protest at the blasts allegedly triggered by Sikh separatists, a section of whom have been waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the northern state of Punjab. Police here have arrested three Sikhs including a lawyer for their alleged involvement in the bomb explosions, city Police Chief Ved Marwa told journalists last night.

'Over 100' Detained During Strike

BK130744 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Many shops in Delhi remained closed today in response to the call for the Delhi bundh [strike] given by the Bharatiya Janata Party. In some areas, it is a weekly close day for shops. Cinema houses, restaurants, banks, and schools are, however, open. City buses are running, although in some areas the frequency appears to be less. According to the police, over 100 people were detained for trying to obstruct the movement of buses. The bundh has been called to protest against the recent bomb explosions.

Police Fire on BJP Workers

HK130948 Hong Kong AFP in English 0930 GMT 13 May 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, May 13 (AFP) — Police today fired on demonstrators during a strike here in protest against a wave of bombings, blamed on Sikh militants, that killed 84 people over the weekend, according to eyewitnesses.

Meanwhile, as India's Parliament began to debate the bombings, city Police Chief Ved Marwa said he had "definite clues" that might lead to those responsible.

Police said they had arrested three Sikhs, including an income tax lawyer, after a hand-to-hand fight here yesterday, and were questioning them.

One police officer said that police were hopeful that they would "nab more people after we complete the interrogation."

Police opened fire on right-wing [Bharatiya Janata Party] party workers today as a general strike called by the party to protest against the alleged Sikh bombings evoked a partial response, according to eyewitnesses.

"Without provocation they fired and clubbed us," BJP spokesman Krishna Sharma said.

A police spokesman said police fired in the air after caning and tear gas failed to disperse a 1,500 strong crowd.

The BJP spokesman said seven party volunteers were wounded in the police action and that police arrested 250 party workers after the volunteers attempted to obstruct city bus services. The police spokesman refused to comment on the arrests.

"We have picked up some troublemakers. We do not know who they are," he said.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses said police baton-charged BJP volunteers in the southern district of the capital after the volunteers attempted to deflate the tyres of buses to immobilise them. There was no police confirmation of this incident.

The strike had been called to protest against the wave of bombings that began in the Indian capital and three provinces on Friday and continued till yesterday. The blasts were blamed on Sikh militants campaigning for a separate Sikh state in India's north.

Crude bombs concealed in transistor radios exploded in residential areas, markets, buses, trains and bus terminals, prompting the Delhi authorities to call in the Army and put troops on the alert in a dozen other cities.

An AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE correspondent who toured Delhi today saw all the major markets closed.

The city's fashionable shopping centres of Connaught Place and Jan Path areas were closed, and even street vendors were absent.

However, city bus services were operating, and federal offices and banks were open, although managers said some of their staff had not reported for work.

Police pickets were seen every 200 yards (182 metres) along the city's streets.

Soldiers in trucks were stationed at important points in the central, southern and northern districts of the capital, eye-

witnesses said. Police pickets were also posted outside Sikh temples here.

Meanwhile, the Indian Parliament began debating the renewed Sikh violence, which has taken the government by surprise.

A section of India's 16 million Sikhs are campaigning for greater political autonomy for the predominantly Sikh state of Punjab. Some militant Sikhs want Punjab to secede from the Indian union.

In the Punjab, suspected Sikh militants have shot and critically wounded a local activist of India's ruling Congress (I) Party and his son.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA news agency said that the attack on Tirath Ram and his son took place in Gurdaspur District yesterday, as the two were returning home after closing their shop for the day.

150 Detained in Strike

BK131322 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Most of the main markets in Delhi remained closed today in response to the call for Delhi bundh [strike] given by the Bharatiya Janata Party. Cinema houses, restaurants, banks, and commercial establishments were, however, functioning. City buses were also plying.

According to the police, nearly 150 people were detained for trying to obstruct the movement of buses. Two rounds were fired in the air in Gandhinagar in east Delhi to disperse the violent mob which was trying to stop buses. The bundh has been observed to protest against the recent bomb explosions.

Haryana Sets Up Antiterrorist Cell

BK130918 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] The Haryana government has set up a special antiterrorist cell to deal with the activities of terrorists in the state. The cell will have 15 squads and each of these will be fully equipped with high-speed motorcycles, sophisticated firearms, walkie-talkies, and wireless sets. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, the chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, said peace and communal harmony in the state will be maintained at all costs and anybody trying to indulge in acts of violence will be severely dealt with. He said 300 persons have been taken into custody in connection with the bomb blasts in the state.

The chief minister announced an award of 20,000 rupees to a person providing clues to the incidents of bomb explosions in the state. He also announced an exgratia grant of 10,000 rupees to the next of kin of those killed in the explosions.

Violence, Arson Follow Shooting in Hoshiarpur

BK101308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] In Punjab, the president of the state unit of the Lok Dal and former member of Parliament, Mr Balbir Singh, was shot dead by two suspected terrorists at Hoshiarpur this morning. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh the assailants came on a scooter and later escaped. A massive hunt has been launched to apprehend the assailants. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in Hoshiarpur town following violence and arson after the killing of Mr Balbir Singh. One person was stabbed to death and a home guard was seriously injured. The spokesman told All India Radio's Chandigarh correspondent that additional force has been deployed in Hoshiarpur to maintain law and order.

The prime minsiter, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has expressed distress at the murder of Mr Balbir Singh. In a condolence message, he said the cowardly attack deserves condemnation by all those who have the welfare of the country at heart. An emergency meeting of the Lok Dal in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Mr Charan Singh expressed shock at the killing. The Lok Sabha today mourned the death. The members observed silence for a while in his memory. In a condolence message the Lok Sabha speaker, Mr Bal Ram Jakhar, described Mr Balbir Singh as a great political personality who always fought for the oppressed.

Situation in Gujarat Updated; Violence Continues

Police Fire To Dispurse Mobs

BK101559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, a large quantity of lethal weapons were seized from the Kalupur area during an extensive combing operation today. Giving this information, the state home minister, Mr Amarsinh Chaudhari, told newsmen this evening in Ahmedabad that the lethal weapons seized include daggers, acid bulbs, Molotov cocktails and crude bombs. Twenty-six persons have been arrested during the operation.

Meanwhile, the situation in Ahmedabad city is under control. No untoward incident has been reported from Kalupur and Dariapur areas now under indefinite curfew for the last 2 days. In the curfew-free areas police opened fired at two places today to disperse violent mobs.

Stabbing Death Reported

BK110342 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, four incidents of stabbing were reported since last evening in which one person has died. Police were forced to open fire to disperse unruly mobs indulging in stone-throwing and looting at different places and (?relief ruled) in the city last night. Four rounds were fired after tear gas shells failed to disperse the mob. Four persons were injured in the police firing. Several incidents of arson were also reported from different areas.

Mwanwhile, indefinite curfew continues in Kalupur and Dhariapur areas for the last 2 days. Army and police patrolling have been further intensified all over the city.

Army Takes Control

BK120311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, the Army has taken control of the entire walled city from this morning following a number of incidents of stabbing, stonethrowing, looting, and arson in different parts of the walled city during the last 24 hours. According to the city police control, police were forced to resort to firing in Kalupur area late last night to disperse two groups of people indulging in stone throwing. Later on, Army moved in the scene and fired 12 rounds in which 3 persons were injured. Police also fired 28 rounds at 2 places in the city last evening to disperse a violent mob indulging in looting and arson. In all eight persons have been injured in this incident.

Incidents of stabbing, arson, and looting have also been reported last night from different areas.

Meanwhile, an indefinite curfew has been imposed in the entire walled city. Curfew relaxation period in other curfew bound areas has also been curtailed from 0900 this morning for 3 hours. A BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] MLA [Member of Legislative Assembly] from Khadia area of the city, Mr Ashok Bhat, was detained yesterday under the National Security Act.

Ahmedabad 'Under Control'

BK120743 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, the situation in the walled city is under control. No untoward incident has been reported since this morning, after the Army was called in to assist the civil authorities and given charge to look after the walled city. However, some incidents of stone throwing and arson are reported from certain areas outside the walled city. Following this, indefinite curfew has been imposed in some more areas.

4 Killed in Police Firing

BK120855 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 85

[Excerpts] In Ahmedabad, the situation in the walled city is under control. According to PRESS TRUST OF INDIA, 4 people were killed and 10 others injured in police firing in two areas in Ahmedabad.

Curfew Extended

BK121637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1540 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] In Ahmedabad, indefinite curfew has been further extended in some more areas of the city. This includes all the areas under the Narayanpura police station on the western side of the River Sabarmati. Indefinite curfew was also enforced in the entire walled city and areas under Bapunagar, Gomtipur, Saraspur, and (Kakdapi) police stations since this morning.

An official spokesman told newsmen in Ahmedabad this evening that 6 persons were killed and 58 injured in violent incidents in different areas of the city till last night. He said that five out of the six were killed in Army and police firing while one was killed as a result of injuries in stone throwing. The spokesman said during this period 34 incidents of arson have been reported from different areas of the city. The police and the Army have rounded up 125 people in connection with today's incidents of violence and for breach of curfew. He said in some more areas outside the walled city the Army will take up maintenance of law and order in aid of police forces from tonight. The GOC [General Officer Commanding] Southern Command today visited Ahmedabad and Gandhinagar and met the state governor, Mr B.K. Nehru, and the chief minister, Mr Solanki. He also held high level discussions with senior Army and police offficials about the situation in the state.

Army Control Spreads

BK130346 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the Army has taken over maintenance of law and order situation in aid of the police forces in three more areas — Gomtipur, Bapunagar, and Saraspur — in the walled city [of Ahmedabad] during the last 24 hours. No untoward incident has been reported from any place where the Army has taken over the maintenance of law and order. The police were forced to fire one round to disperse a violent mob indulging in arson in the Shahibagh area outside the walled city. There were also reports of a few incidents of arson and stone throwing. The Gujarat chief minister, Mr Madhavsinh Solanki, has appealed to the people of the state to set aside their differences and help in restoring peace and normalcy in the state. In a broadcast over radio and TV at Ahmedabad last night, Mr Solanki said that the people have to take a serious note of the systematic effort of a few interested elements to create unrest in Gujarat.

Sri Lanka Absence From Thimpu Meeting Regretted

BK111628 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] India has regretted the absence of the Sri Lanka delegation from the meeting of the South Asian Regional Cooperation [SARC] countries in Thimpu. It expressed the hope that in future bilateral differences will not come in the way of members taking part in its gatherings and activities. The All India Radio's special correspondent, Manohar Takru, reports that giving India's views in Thimpu today, the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, recalled that it was Sri Lanka which had urged that bilateral issues be kept out of SARC when the foreign secretaries of the 7-member nations met for the first time in Colombo in 1981. It was embodied in the SARC declaration adopted in 1983.

Zia Terms Burma, ROK Visits 'Most Successful'
BK110830 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has said that his visit to Burma and Republic of Korea have been most successful and will help promote political understanding and economic collaboration with these countries. He was addressing a news conference at the Islamabad airport a short while ago on his return home after paying visit to these countries.

The president said that he had the most cheerful and in-depth discussion with the leaders of Burma and Republic of Korea. He said the result of his visit to these countries will be visible soon.

Referring to his visit to South Korea, the president said that Pakistan can benefit by the strategy followed by that country because this enables it to attain the present position of one of the most advanced countries of the Third World today. He said Pakistan has been assured by the South Korean leaders of cooperation and [word indistinct] to invest in important projects and transfer of technology. The two countries have also agreed to promote cooperation in all fields, particularly in bilateral trade.

About his visit to Burma, the president said after an elapse of 24 years this was the first highest-level contact between the two countries. He said his visit had provided an opportunity to renew our friendship with that country. He was confident the bilateral relations between the two countries, particularly in economic collaboration, will get [word indistinct] on account of his talks with the Burmese leaders.

Replying to a question about the reported statement by the Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, about Pakistan's peaceful nuclear program, the president said that as long as Pakistan is concerned it will continue its peace offensive with India because we want good relations with that country. He hoped that the Indian prime minister would also realize that it will be in the interest of both the countries to have good relations.

In reply to another question about Afghanistan, the president said that there can be no flexibility on Pakistan's principled stand on this issue.

The president on his return was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo. Others present at the airport included federal ministers, ministers of state, MNA's [members of National Assembly] and MPA's [members of Provincial Assembly], councillors and highest-level administrative officials.

Zia Comments on Afghan Violations, Other Issues
BK130448 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq had separate meetings with delegations of MNA's [members of National Assembly] and senators from Baluchistan in Quetta today. They exchanged views on national and provincial issues. Among others, the Baluchistan governor, Lieutenant General K.K. Afridi; and the provincial chief minister, Jam Mir Ghulam Qadir Khan, were present during these meetings.

Later, the president told newsmen before leaving Quetta this afternoon for Rawalpindi that his meetings with the MNA's and senators were very encouraging. They have assured him that any action to be taken by the government in the supreme interest of the nation and country would have their full support. He said so far as the government is concerned, it would give them full cooperation. The president said he was undertaking visits to the provincial capitals to ascertain views of the elected representatives on the working of parliament.

Replying to a question, he said they were trying to create a true Islamic system in the country, and in Islam there is no concept of opposition for the sake of opposition. However, he said, there was great emphasis on accountability in Islam. The president said the government would welcome constructive criticism.

In reply to a question, the president said parliament, being a sovereign body, can consider any matter including the constitutional amendments made by him or any other amendments in the Constitution.

About combating illiteracy, he said a comprehensive plan would be chalked out for the spread of education in the country. Answering another question, the president said the press should play a positive and constructive role and should always keep the national interest uppermost.

In reply to a question about Pakistan's foreign policy, he said it is balanced and very successful. He added that it is not only his point of view but it is acknowledged by other key nations as well.

Referring to continued violations of Paksitan's airspace by Afghan planes, the president said the country's defense forces were fully capable of defending its frontiers. He said we are exercising great restraint.

Referring to his recent visit to Burma and the Republic of Korea, the president said it was a good-will visit. The president was given a hearty send-off on his departure from Quetta. He was seen off at the airport among others by the provincial chief minister, speaker of the provincial assembly, members of the provincial cabinet, deputy speaker of the National Assembly, MNA's, senators, MPA's [members of Provincial Assembly] and senior officials. The president has now arrived in Rawalpindi.

Zia Meets With Departing Soviet Ambassador
BK120400 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The Soviet ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Smirnov, called on the president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, in Rawalpindi today. They exchanged views on matters of mutual interest. Mr Smirnov is due to leave Pakistan shortly on the conclusion of his assignment. They ambassador of Sri Lanka to Pakistan also made a courtesy call on the president today.

State Minister Noorani Leaves for Bhutan Meeting

BK111542 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 11 May 85

[Excerpts] Pakistan attaches great importance to the ministerial conference of the South Asian Regional Cooperation which begins in Bhutan on Monday. This was stated by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani while talking to newsmen prior to his departure to Bhutan from Islamabad this afternoon. He will lead the Pakistani delegation at the 2-day conference.

In reply to a question, the state minister said that he will meet the Indian minister in Bhutan and will explain Pakistan's viewpoints on bilateral matters. Answering a question about the next meeting of Paksitani and Indian foreign ministers, Zain Noorani said that the details of the meeting have been formulated and talks will be held at the secretary level before the foreign ministers meeting.

Finance Minister on Aid Consortium Commitments

BK081449 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 8 May 85

[Text] The Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium, at its meeting in Paris yesterday, pledged total assistance to Pakistan of $2,100 million for the next fiscal year, showing an increase of 17 percent over the level of 1984-85. The finance minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, told newsmen in Rawalpindi this afternoon that Pakistan had actually requested for $1,800 million assistance, but increased assistance reflects a tremendous vote of confidence in the economic management of the country and wholehearted support for the economic policies of the newly elected government. He said out of the total assistance $1,470 million are project assistance and $630 million in commodity aid. In addition, $200 million have been pledged by the member countries for the maintenance of Afghan refugees.

Dr Mahbubal Haq emphasized that the entire assistance has been provided on extremely soft terms. The [word indistinct] element is over 85 percent in the total assistance package and this should diminish the burden of debt servicing over time.

'Major Clashes' Reported in 6 Afghan Provinces

BK121529 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] According a report, the mujahidin have launched several successful attacks on the Soviet-Karmal forces in various areas of Afghanistan. The news agency reports said that major clashes have taken place in Kabul, Qandahar, Badghis, Takhar, Herat, and Baghlan Provinces.

BANGLADESH

Foreign Adviser Leaves for SARC Meeting in Bhutan

BK111440 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Bangladesh Foreign Adviser Humayun Rashid Chowdhury left Dhaka for Thimpu this morning to lead the Bangladesh delegation to the foreign ministers meeting of the South Asian Regional Cooperation [SARC]. The meeting begins on Monday. It will prepare for the first-ever SARC summit to be held in Dhaka.

Before his departure for the Bhutanese capital, the foreign adviser told newsmen that he is optimistic about the participation of Sri Lanka attending [as heard] the SARC summit in Dhaka later this year. Sri Lanka has already announced its decision to boycott the SARC foreign ministers meeting reacting to a statement of an Indian minister on the ethnic violence in Sri Lanka. The foreign adviser said he had telephonic conversation with his Sri Lankan counterpart, and he assured him that if everything goes well, Sri Lanka will have no difficulty in attending the summit in Dhaka. It may be mentioned that Bangladesh initiated the idea of regional cooperation in South Asia in 1980.

Call for General Strike 'Ignored' in Dhaka

HK130644 Hong Kong AFP in English 0624 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Dhaka, May 13 (AFP) — Bomb blasts starting yesterday killed a boy and injured at least 20 people according to officials and pressmen, but observers said Dhaka was otherwise calm today as people ignored a general strike call.

Local pressmen said a bomb killed a 13-year-old boy yesterday in Chittagong, while police sources said blasts here today and yesterday wounded at least 20 people and damaged vehicles.

A half-day general strike led by major opposition parties, to protest the calling of sub-district polls, was a flop here as work continued as usual.

Public transport was moving and government offices and banks functioned almost normally, though under tightened security, observers said.

It was not known how the strike call had been observed in other cities.

The two major opposition groups, the 15-Party and the Seven-Party alliances, as well as the right-wing fundamentalist Jamiat Islami, called the strike after the military government of President Hussain Mohammed Ershad said the elections would be fought on a non-partisan basis.

The polls to elect chairmen for the country's newly created 460 sub-districts are scheduled for May 16 and 20.

Under martial law tightened March 1, all political activity is banned. The two top opposition leaders, Sheikh Hasina Wajed and Begum Khaleda Zia of the 15-Party and Seven-Party alliances respectively, are under house arrest.

NEPAL

Australian Foreign Minister Hayden Begins Talks

BK101508 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] The water resources minister, Pashupati Shumsher Rana, and the visiting Australian foreign minister, William Hayden, held official talks in Katmandu today. Briefing newsmen about the talks, a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry said the two ministers reviewed the economic cooperation between Australia and Nepal. Mr Rana said the foreign minister's visit is an evidence of Australia's interest in consolidating ties existing between the two countries. He expressed gratefulness to Australia for that country's support to Nepal's zone of peace proposal. In his remarks, Minister Rana shed light on the basic tenets of Nepal's foreign policy and her commitment to the principles of nonalignment and the South Asian Regional Cooperation.

Both sides are learned to have expressed satisfaction at the successful meeting. The minister for foreign affairs of Australia, Mr William Hayden, called on the finance minister, Dr Prakash Chandra Lohani. The two ministers exchanged views on matters of bilateral economic relations between the two countries. Mr Hayden had arrived in Katmandu earlier today on a 3-day visit to Nepal.

Melbourne on Talks

BK130716 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] The foreign affairs minister, Mr Hayden, on a political tour of South Asian nations, has gone to India after a 3-day visit to Nepal. Before leaving the Nepalese capital, Katmandu, Mr Hayden said Australia was as much a state of the Indian Ocean as it was an equal state of the Pacific. In his talks with Nepal's King Birendra, Mr Hayden gave an assurance that Australia wanted to enhance and reinforce cooperation with the Himalayan kingdom.

Mr Hayden is the first Australian foreign minister to visit Nepal, to which Australia contributed about $200 million [Australian dollars] a year in aid.

Mr Hayden is scheduled to go to Pakistan on Wednesday and visit Sri Lanka next week — the last leg of his trip.

Hayden Departs Katmandu

BK121531 Katmandu External Service in English 1445 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] The Australian minister for foreign affairs, William George Hayden, left Katmandu today after completing a 3-day visit to Nepal. Mr George Hayden was seen off at the Tribhuvan International Airport by the water resources minister, Pashupati

Shumsher Rana. Earlier, Mr Hayden had called on Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand in Katmandu.

Mr Hayden at a press conference organized in Katmandu today said that his visit to Nepal was very fruitful. In answer to a question, he said that Australia [words indistinct] for the feasibility (?design) development scheme of the joint Karnali hydroelectricity project in far western Nepal. This is a positive demonstration of Australia's interest in [words indistinct] or being associated with the resource development program of Nepal, he said. Mr Hayden also said that the forestry development project would be extended.

Answering a question, the Australian foreign minister, Hayden, said Australia was taking much interest in assisting the countries in South Asia and countries of the Indian Ocean region. He referred to the identity of views Nepal and Australia have on peace, disarmament, and arms control. Australia has endorsed Nepal's zone-of peace-proposal, he said, and (?cited) the cordial ties existing between the two countries.

SRI LANKA

Delhi Says Sri Lanka To Attend SARC Meeting

BK121214 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] According to an agency report, Sri Lanka has announced its decision to attend the ministerial-level meeting of South Asian Regional Cooperation beginning at Thimpu tomorrow. A statement issued by the Sri Lanka Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Colombo today said that government has reconsidered its earlier decision and President Jayewardene has ordered two senior officials to fly to Bhutan.

AFP Cites PTI on Alleged Massacre in North

HK120942 Hong Kong AFP in English 0910 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 12 (AFP) — A Sri Lankan Defense Ministry official today said he was not in a position to comment on an allegation by the country's main Tamil party that the Armed Forces had killed over 150 people in northern Sri Lanka on Friday.

The official said any comment on the allegation would be made by the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, who was out of Colombo today.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency yesterday reported that the president of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), M. Sivasithamampram, had alleged in India that over 150 people were killed Friday when Sri Lankan Armed Forces went on a "murderous rampage" along a 15-mile route from Tondaimanar to Point Pedro.

He alleged that young men were linked up and shot dead, women raped and property looted, PTI said. There was no independent confirmation of the charge.

Police sources today said no order had been given to them to probe the alleged killings. High ranking Army sources, however, said that troops had conducted a cordon and search operation in the Velvettithurai area at the northern tip of the peninsula on Thursday.

They said an Army major was killed and some soldiers wounded when militants threw a hand grenade during the Army operation.

Informed sources said the Army might have continued its operation after the grenade attack during which several persons could have been killed and some buildings destroyed.

"But this talk of rape is part of the campaign to win sympathy and discredit the force," a source said.

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority is waging a violent campaign for a separate state in the north and east.

Meanwhile, in a separate incident, security sources said that a militant Tamil group, the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), had claimed responsibility for an attack last Friday on a police station on Mannar Island off the northwest coast.

The sources said the LTTE had kidnapped two Sinhalese policemen during the attack and had asked authorities to make an appeal for their release.

The LTTE broadcast their message to the authorities on the police radio frequency, the sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The LTTE militants attacked the police station before dawn with mortars and automatic weapons, demolishing nearly all the buildings including the living quarters.

Three policemen died and four were seriously wounded in the attack. The casualty rate was low as other policemen pulled out when the attack was launched, the sources said.

Army units were rushed to the help of the beleaguered policemen and Air Force helicopters armed with rockets scrambled to drive the attackers away, other sources said.

BBC on 'Mass Killing'

BK120141 London BBC World Service in English 0015 GMT 12 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] From northern Sri Lanka where Tamil separatists have waged a campaign of violence against the authorities, details have been emerging of an alleged mass killing of civilians by the Armed Forces. The government have called for an inquiry into the allegations. A report from Allen McDonald in Sri Lanka:

[Begin recording] It's alleged the victims died either by being shot at point blank range or by being locked inside a public library which are [as heard] then blown up with explosives. Those who survived the explosion are said to have been shot as they tried to

climb out. In one incident, it's said the son of the district court president and his servant were shot dead in their home after being served a drink. Many of the victims were described as schoolchildren between the ages of 14 and 17. The killings are said to have taken place at the fishing village of Velvettiturai in the extreme north of the Jaffna Peninsula after a number of soldiers — police still just say 14 — were killed by a landmine explosion and subsequent shootout with separatist guerrillas. [end recording]

Investigation Ordered

BK110744 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The Sri Lanka Government has ordered an investigation on the reported rampage of troops in the northern Jaffna District in reprisal for the murder of an Army major and a soldier by Tamil militants on Wednesday.

Mannar Police Station Attacked by 'Terrorists'

BK101346 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Terrorists attacked the police station at Mannar early this morning, causing heavy damage to the main building. A number of policemen are feared trapped under the debris. The rail track near the railway station at Murikandi was blasted by the terrorists yesterday.

Meanwhile, security forces recovered nine bodies of terrorists at (?Kokavil) after the terrorist attack on the Army camp was successfully repulsed by the Army. The attack broke off due to the (?effective) defense put up by the troops. As a result, the terrorists were forced to leave behind their dead and equipment. Official sources said that among the items recovered were AK-47 rifles, SMG, Indian-made grenades, (?blast) mask, gas mask, helmets with the [word indistinct] mark, ammunition, and a TV camera with the first few minutes of the attack recorded.

4 'Terrorists' Killed by Security Forces

BK131053 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Four terrorists were shot and killed by the security forces when they abandoned a steel trunk of explosives at Iranamadu in the Northern Province. According to official sources, about 50 to 60 pounds of explosives were found in the trunk by a combined [words indistinct] sentry patrol returning from Kilinochchi.

In a separate incident, a bomb, which exploded in the Jaffna public library, is reported to have damaged mainly the windowpanes of the building.

Khomeyni Meets Publicity Organization Members
LD121237 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Members of the Islamic Publicity Organization met with Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, this morning. At this meeting, Mr Jannati briefed the imam on the operations and activities of the Islamic Publicity Organization. Mr Va'ez-Tabasi, the imam's representative and the custodian of the shrine of the eighth imam, met the imam of the ummah this morning.

Secretariat Announces Khomeyni Ramadan Retreat
LD121241 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] According to an announcement by the secretariat of Imam Khomeyni, the meetings of the imam of the ummah have come to an end, as every year, on the eve of the blessed month of Ramadan.

Musavi News Conference on War, Foreign Relations
LD131208 Tehran IRNA in English 1151 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 13 IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi Monday morning said that Iranian forces were ready to advance for the materialisation of the legitimate rights of the Iranian people, for the establishment of justice, and for movement in the path which has been chosen from the very beginning.

Answering questions of domestic and foreign reporters in a press conference held here Monday morning, the prime minister stressed that when the interest of the country deemed it necessary, Iranian forces will start their movement in the fronts.

Pointing to the UN positive position towards the Iraqi-imposed war, the prime minister noted that the recent stance of the UN Security Council, despite being conservative, was an indication of its further attention towards realities.

"If the Security Council explicitly condemns Iraqi aggression against our country, obviously, grounds will be paved for our presence in the Security Council to discuss the stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran," Musavi told reporters.

Moreover, he added, if the Security Council moved towards following up the 8-point proposed plan by the UN secretary general, Iran would have the readiness to take part in the session of the Security Council.

Referring to the stationing of U.S. AWACS planes in Iraq, the prime minister said that there was no precise information available in this respect. But, he stressed, every few hours the U.S. will provide Iraq with information on Iranian air forces gathered through satellite.

Also, reactionary states in the region will also put information they receive through satellite at the disposal of the Baghdad regime, Musavi said.

On the positive developments in relations between Iran and Persian Gulf states and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council, the prime minister said that the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council was in practice at the service of the United States and has put its facilities and espionage equipment at the disposal of Iran's enemy. "This council will be successful only when it places itself alongside the people of the region and becomes free from the yoke of the U.S." Musavi said.

Prime Minister Musavi described Iran's relations with the Soviet Union as ties within the framework of good neighborly relations and noted that the Soviet Union has adopted a more realistic outlook toward issues related to the war and other matters. He said that prior to the victory of the Islamic Revolution, Iran's political and economic relations were inclined towards the West. At present, he added, Iran has outstanding relations with the Soviet Union and has decided to further expand such ties. Musavi noted that no decision has so far been made for a visit to the Soviet Union by him or the foreign ministers.

On the reasons for the failure of the Islamic Conference in mediating in the imposed war, the prime minister said that the conference failed to condemn the aggressor from the very beginning. "If this had happened, the Islamic Conference could have played an outstanding role," he said.

On the possibility of Iran using chemical weapons in the war and the possibility for the manufacture of such weapons in Iran, Musavi said, "We prefer not to use such weapons". He stressed that there was the possibility of producing such weapons in Iran to the required level.

Referring to the recent activities of the "freedom movement", the prime minister noted that the movement was free within the framework of the constitutional law. Although they had accused the Islamic Republic of Iran in their interviews, still they could freely take part in the presidential elections and there was no restriction in this respect.

Further on News Conference
LD131352 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 May 85

[Excerpts] At a news conference attended by domestic and foreign correspondents today Prime Minister Mr Mir Hoseyn Musavi stressed: We attach greater importance to our own efforts than to international criticisms and external activities. Our analysis of the war has not altered, and our forces are fully prepared to pursue the objectives set at the outset of the war.

Regarding Iran's relations with Middle East countries, the prime minister said: We have based our relations with Middle Eastern countries on the basis of the interests of nations and not those of the superpowers; this we shall continue to do. We want our relations to be based on bilateral growth and prosperity. Today our country is regarded as the main power in the region, and we call upon the regional states to attach greater importance to their future. In that event they could have the best of relations with us. The prime minister noted: We have made some progress in the economic spheres with our neighboring countries, except

Iraq; the volume of our trade exchange with these countries is growing. As regards Afghanistan, we have clarified our position from the beginning, and we oppose any aggression by foreigners against that country. We have more than 1.5 million Afghan refugees in our country who are being cared for by our compatriots. We want the destiny of the people of Afghanistan to come into the hands of the people of Afghanistan some day, because the USSR's presence in Afghanistan would make the United States expand its presence in the Indian Ocean.

On relations between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council countries, the prime minister said: We have friendly relations with some of these countries because some of them have more friendly relations with us compared to some others. The cooperation council can be successful in the region only when it takes steps to protect the interests of the countries in the region and not those of the superpowers. In that event we shall also be on their side. Our view is that the present attitude of the council will not only fail to serve the interests of these countries in the long run but will even fail to serve the interests of the superpowers.

On Iran's relations with the USSR and the possibility of his visit to that country, the prime minister said: In our relations with the USSR we are experiencing a realistic approach on their part. We formulate our relations with the outside world on the basis of their positions toward Iran. Today we have substantial economic ties. We want these relations to expand to a reasonable extent. A number of commissions are being activated to this end, and it would be natural for talks to be held at various levels. As to whether we would make a trip there, no decision has yet been made.

Referring to the importance of expanding relations with the Third World, the prime minister noted: We are determined to scale down our relations with the Western world in a unilateral way.

On the forthcoming presidential election and the participation of Bazargan's Freedom Movement, the prime minister said: Following the attitude of thought that existed in our country before the revolution there are some people who regard their views as universal; their positions are sometimes similar to those adopted abroad.

The foreign press has recently been engaged in certain efforts, and it has been making certain comments about the war. And those at home have also adopted similar positions, imagining that in that way they would be able to neutralize the presence of the people on the scene. Mr Musavi pointed out that they will be able to take part in the election. I advise them not to engage in calumny, lies and in calling the revolution into question. The presidential election will be free within the framework of the Constitution and the Council of Guardians, and everyone will be able to participate.

On the position adopted by the ICO concerning the imposed war under the organization's new secretary general, the prime minister said: We believe that the failure of the ICO's efforts has been due to the fact that it failed to adopt a fair position; if it had adopted a realistic approach the Islamic countries would have also adopted steps toward guidance and fair solutions. This has not been done, however, and hope has recently been raised that the new secretary general might adopt a more equitable position.

The prime minister then commented on the positions adopted by France toward Iran, saying: We have observed a more balanced attitude in the stances adopted by this country, but no steps have yet been taken in this connection. We have always maintained that until France takes a step in this connection, relations should not be expected to improve. I am saying that as long as France does not resolve the problem of repaying the $1-billion loan it should not expect relations to improve in any way.

Musavi Meets With Syrian Deputy Petroleum Minister

LD130637 Tehran IRNA in English 0624 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 13, IRNA — Prime Minister Hosayn Musavi met and conferred with Deputy Petroleum Minister of Syria Issa Ibrahim Sunday afternoon. During the meeting, the Syrian official outlined struggles of Syrian people in confronting the Zionist regime and the United States.

Stressing that Iran and Syria have common interests, Musavi praised Syria's resistance vis-a-vis the U.S. and the Zionist regime, adding that with the lapse of time relations between Iran and Syria became deeper.

Musavi noted that Iran was facing problems in the region which Syria was confronting from qualitative and quantitative points of view. Therefore, he emphasised, Iran's economic relations with Syria and further strengthening of such relations was important for the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khamene'i, Defense Minister Discuss Armaments

LD111137 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Defense Minister Colonel Rahimi this morning met Mr Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the republic and chief of the Supreme Defense Council. During the meeting, also attended by a number of armaments affairs innovators, the defense minister gave a report to the chief of the Supreme Defense Council on the progress achieved in armaments affairs by the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Khamene'i Note to Ortega Condemns U.S. Embargo

LD121523 Tehran IRNA in English 1516 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Islamic Republic President Khamene'i Sunday sent a message to the Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega condemning U.S. economic sanctions against Nicaragua and declaring Iran's support for the revolutionary people of that Central American nation.

Khamene'i said U.S. economic sanctions will only enlighten world public opinion, intensify resistance of the oppressed nations and reveal the inhuman policies of the U.S.

He said U.S. threats to create economic difficulties and curtail the export of necessary items to Nicaragua stems from the enmity of the global arrogance vis-a-vis the independence and awareness of Third World nations.

The president declared the support of the Muslim revolutionary nation of Iran for the "people and Government of Nicaragua at this particular stage of the history of the Nicaraguan revolution."

Khamene'i Hails Lebanese Muslims' Actions

LD121138 Tehran IRNA in English 1130 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i, meeting a group of relatives of martyred Lebanese Muslims Sunday said in their confrontation with the Jerusalem-occupying regime, Lebanese Muslims acted in a manner that was unprecedented among all Muslim governments.

"The Lebanese Muslims, employing the weapons of faith and resolution, forced the treacherous Zionists to retreat and the calculations of colonial policies in Lebanon had completely unexpected results," Khamene'i said to the visiting Lebanese.

Addressing the enemies of the Islamic Revolution, President Khamene'i said "We do not need to resort to covert interference or coups against other governments, we are not for such acts because we believe in the changing of peoples and as long as this change is not realized, no other development could take place."

"The world's big powers increase their pressure on the African and Third World nations every day, for example the American pressure on Nicaragua is because the Nicaraguan nation does not want to be a slave of America and the message of our revolution is that nations should bear these pressures, and if they do so, they will be victorious."

"Our message to all the countries and wherever the bloodied claws of world arrogance and America is seen is that they should not submit to world arrogance and because of this message our revolution is facing problems in the world," Khamene'i concluded.

Shultz Tour of Middle East, Peace Plans Viewed

GF110916 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] On the eve of the visit to the Middle East by George Shultz, widescale reactionary Zionist efforts have continued in the region to create a suitable atmosphere for promoting the Camp David decisions. Recently several meetings have been held in the region between the Jordanian and Palestinian authorities and with authorities of various Arab countries. Important among them is one meeting between King Husayn of Jordan, Mubarak, and Sultan Qaboos, the king of Oman, at the port of Al-Aqaba, and the meeting of King Husayn with Saddam at Baghdad and later the visit of King Husayn to the two sheikhdoms of Kuwait and Bahrain. Yasir 'Arafat also was not sitting idle during this period, but held meetings with the heads of several countries in the region. A growing number of those meetings occurred after the controversial visit by Murphy to the Middle East region and on the eve of the visit by Shultz to the same region.

At the same time in Amman, the capital of Jordan, 'Arafat and King Husayn held talks and discussed results of the separate meetings they held with others so that they could arrive at a final decision on a joint Jordan-Palestine stand to face the Shultz mission. The latest situation in the region and the various stands that have since taken place in the region and in the world, which present several complications, appear to make it difficult for the King Husayn and 'Arafat plan to succeed in the near future.

Some of these complications relate to the internal differences on the Camp David Agreement between the United States and the Zionist regime. The United States, the Zionist regime, King Husayn, 'Arafat, and also the Egyptian regime, all of them apparently have different views on a solution to the Palestine problem. Although these views are naturally very similar and aim mainly at finding peace with Israel, the details are important and there seem to be major differences. For example, the United States thinks that the only solution for peace in the Middle East is for the Arabs to hold direct talks with Israel. This matter was announced by Shultz in most clear words some time ago. Murphy's recent visit to the Middle East has shown that the Reagan regime wants direct talks between the Arabs and Israel. Nevertheless, the United States will only meet the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation if the Palestinians accept UN Security Council Resolution No 242 and members of the Palestinian delegation are not members of the PLO or have any links to it.

Although the Palestinians siding with 'Arafat were not totally opposed to the Murphy plan, on the whole 'Arafat rejected the Murphy plan in the form of the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. The most open diplomatic comment on this plan was from Hani' al-Hassan, one of the Palestinians supporting Yasir 'Arafat. In one of his press interviews he said that the PLO has accepted Murphy's plan. He added that the American Government is ready to hold a meeting with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the Palestinian members of which will be nominated by the PLO, but that these members will not say that they are representatives of this organization.

Recently Mr Hani' al-Hassan, who incidentally is the political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, in a telephone conversation with the AFP office in Amman said that the PLO has not accepted the proposals of Richard Murphy, the deputy to the undersecretary of state, on the Middle East. Of course, this contradictory statement shows 'Arafat's readiness to see if more concessions could be gained from the complicated terms of the Camp David peace proposals in relation to the Middle East. On the other hand, there seem to be differences in the views of the Egyptian regime and the Jordan-'Arafat plan. These mostly relate to the method of talks with the Zionist regime. King Husayn-'Arafat primarily want direct talks by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation with the United States. Later, following this meeting, they want another international meeting with the participation of all parties concerned, including the Zionist regime. So in that framework real talks could be held and a final decision arrived at. Although the Reagan regime does not support this plan, it has based the fact of holding direct talks with the Palestinians on recognition of the Zionist regime by the PLO.

Meanwhile, in the American camp the Zionist reactionaries have wide differences on the Palestine question. The Government of Syria and other permanent members of the Security Council, except the United States, have different views which double the complications of the King Husayn-'Arafat peace plan. The Soviet Union has rejected the agreement between King Husayn and 'Arafat and believes that the Amman pact is void of the question of creating a Palestinian state and participation by the PLO in peace talks. In view of this stance it is clear that the Kremlin authorities will never agree to meet a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, nor agree to such a plan. In any case it has been announced that a Jordanian delegation led by the foreign minister of this country and a Palestinian delegation possibly led by Qaddumi, the head of the political section of the PLO, may meet separately and independently with the Kremlin authorities and hold talks with them. Rejection of the makeup of the joint Jordanian-Palestine delegation by the Soviet Union has created several deadlocks for Yasir 'Arafat, which are important for the parties of the Amman pact.

Syria also rejects any move against the resolution of the conference of the Arab heads of state held in Morocco in 1982, or any move against the international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations in which all parties concerned will take part, including the Soviet Union. The same tone was set by Syrian authorities in their meeting with Murphy, who had gone to Damascus; it was most decisive and harsh. Syria harshly attacked the American policies which were followed by threats from the Reagan regime against the plots in the Middle East. The interesting thing is that the Muslim people, without paying attention to these complicated proposals and plans, continue their campaign against the Zionist regime. Shultz wants to visit the Middle East amidst this situation and he claims that the present time is an opportune moment for intervention by the United States.

Arabic Commentary Views Tour

GF101920 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 10 May 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] George Shultz, the architect of U.S. policy, directs the peace game in the Middle East with obvious stupidity, despite the belief of some political circles that he drives the cart very cleverly. Before resuming his trip to the Middle East countries to discuss the latest capitulatory plans to end the Palestinian issue, he threw bait to the Palestinian sea to catch the Palestinian fish. Thus came his latest decision to agree to the participation of PNC members in the joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation, which it has been decided will travel to Washington to hold preliminary talks with the U.S. Administration prior to participation in the latest settlement arena with the Zionist enemy. As events have proved and demonstrated, Shultz is no longer the skillful fisherman who can practice his profession as the administration in the White House wants. What Washington wants is a total and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East that will guarantee stability and security for the Zionist enemy. It knows that 'Arafat today merely represents a Palestinian faction, and not all Palestinians.

While it may be within Washington's power to buy this faction within the deal of capitulation, it is totally unable to buy Palestinian decisionmaking as a whole. This means that the game is not likely to be completed and that the peace that Washington wants and Shultz is looking for in the corridors of the ruling regimes will merely be sedative pills to the conflict that will quickly reappear when their effects wear off. Shultz wanted to offer sweets before coming as a dear guest of the settlement parties and the men of the capitulatory deal, such as Husni Mubarak, Husayn, 'Arafat, and on down the list.

So far, Shultz has not realized that these sweets which he offered prior to his trip will be repulsive to all Palestinian mouths. The PNC, which the architect of U.S. policy has bet on, today represents only itself. The PNC was convened in the absence of the majority of the known Palestinian figures and in the absence of most Palestinian organizations. 'Arafat used all possible methods to provide an opportunity for this council to meet.

The Palestinian masses rejected it in their resounding demonstrations which filled the Palestinian camps and towns and stated their opinion of this council, namely, that it does not represent the Palestinian people.

The U.S. agreement to accept members of this council in the negotiating delegation means nothing in the Palestinian formula and in the practical arena.

Eventually, Shultz will realize, after he has carried out his tour in the region's countries, that he has not been a skillful fisherman. The U.S. net will emerge from the Palestinian sea empty of any resolution. This is all the harvest that awaits Shultz in the present political season.

Lebanon's Fadlallah Cited on Shultz Visit

GF101338 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, one of the Mojahedin ulema in Lebanon, has said that the reason behind the recent crisis in Beirut and its southern suburb is to exert pressure on Muslims and compel them to cooperate with capitulatory plans to resolve the Middle East question.

Fadlallah denounced U.S.-Zionist plots.

In a statement made in Beirut, he said: It has been proved to us that violent military actions are escalated whenever a U.S. official visits the region.

Now, on the eve of the visit of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, we have to expect such actions.

Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah said that Shultz is well-known for his hostility to all those who made efforts to abrogate the 17 May agreement between Lebanon and the Zionist entity.

Consequently, he harbors a long-standing hatred toward Lebanese revolutionary Muslims.

Lebanese Clergy Statement Cited on Shultz Tour

LD101146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] In an announcement issued here [as heard], the League of Islamic Clergy in Lebanon has criticized the visit to the Middle East of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. It warned that the aim of the visit was to apply the conciliatory solutions put forth by Husni Mubarak, Yasir 'Arafat, King Husayn, and Saddam Husayn. The statement urged all Muslims to defeat these actions.

Another part of the statement emphasizes that the essential aim of the spurious conflicts in Lebanon, such as the Ja'ja' sectarian movement, the events east of Sidon, and the critical situation along the line of contact between the two sides of Beirut, is to divert the Muslims' attention away from the issues of the withdrawal of the Zionist regime's forces from occupied Lebanon and the recent attempts to implement security arrangements with the Zionist regime in southern Lebanon.

In conclusion, the statement urged the Muslim fighters not to join in the Phalangists' plots to provoke clashes along Beirut's contact line, and to concentrate on the confrontation with the Zionist aggressors and on defeating the security arrangements conspiracy.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Addresses Guards Ulema

LD121956 Tehran IRNA in English 1855 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani today called on the spiritual promoters of members of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Committees to think seriously of their tasks and continue to enlighten and edify the souls of the committee guards with a view to create a model law enforcement corps for other countries to follow.

Rafsanjani, who was speaking to a group of members of the ulema in charge of the religious and ideological upbringing of the committee guards as well as families of Lebanese martyrs, said once members of ulema have successfully accomplished tasks entrusted to them, they shall have attained their goal.

Elsewhere, he praised the families of Lebanese martyrs for their morale, saying that by their presence here they also boost the morale of Iranian families who have lost their relatives in the Islamic Revolution or in the Iraqi imposed war.

He said the invasion of Lebanon by the Zionist regime had been a plot to undermine the Islamic Revolution in Iran because the big powers had thought in vain that once the Zionist troops should invade, the Islamic Republic would dispatch troops to Lebanon and thereby would abandon the war with the Iraqi aggressors.

Rafsanjani noted that by ousting the Zionist troops from southern Lebanon, Lebanese people had an almost unprecedented victory against the Zionists since traditionally the Zionist troops continue to stay in territory upon which they set their foot.

The Majlis speaker lauded the Lebanese Muslims for their bravery and said Iran's Muslim people consider the victory of the Lebanese people as one of their own.

Car Bomb Explodes in Tehran; 'at Least 10' Dead

LD120757 Tehran IRNA in English 0752 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] At least ten people were martyred and more than 20 others injured when a relatively strong bomb went off in one of the poor-populated areas in south Tehran at 08:15 hours (04:45 GMT). Some of the martyrs were torn into pieces. The bomb was planted in the boot of a parked car by enemies of the people and the revolution in Nasser Khosrow Avenue, one of the busiest streets in the capital at this hour of the day.

Meanwhile, eyewitnesses said that as a result of the explosion, two nearby shops caught fire. In addition, a number of shops were damaged and cars near the scene of the incident smashed.

Following the blast, relief workers rushed to the scene of the incident to rescue the victims and extinguish the fire.

Reports said that large numbers of people gathered in the area to help relief workers.

'Agents of Imperialism' Blamed

LD120856 Tehran IRNA in English 0845 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, 12 May (IRNA) — Agents of imperialism Sunday morning committed a new crime by exploding a bomb in one of the poor-populated areas in south Tehran in which at least 12 people were martyred and over 35 others injured.

The bomb which went off at 08:15 hours (04:45) GMT), was planted in the boot of a biege car parked in Nasser Khosrow Avenue, by the lackeys of U.S. imperialism.

Earlier reports said that at least 12 people were martyred and over 30 others, including street venders, were injured, a number of whom received out-patient treatment. Bodies of four martyrs were transferred to Sina Hospital.

Reports added that five of the martyrs who were close to the explosion, were torn into pieces to the extent that scattered flesh could be seen on the walls of nearby buildings. A number of bus passengers inside a bus parked near the scene were injured in the incident.

The bomb blast caused fire in the area as a result of which, two buildings were gutted. Relief workers immediately rushed to the scene of the incident and an hour later extinguished the fire.

During the explosion, 8 shops were completely destroyed, three others damaged, while seven cars were smashed and a bus and 15 other cars received damages. Two motorcycles were also burnt in the fire. A huge crowd of people rushed to the area shouting slogans in condemnation of the act as well as "Death to the U.S.," "Death to Monafeqin", and "This is a proof of U.S. crimes".

Official Condemns 'U.S. Agents'

LD121022 Tehran IRNA in English 1012 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Tehran police chief told IRNA that the bomb blasted in Nasser Khosrow Ave. Sunday morning included 50 pounds of TNT, planted in the boot of a parked car.

Colonel Abbas Mazzami, condemning this criminal act by U.S. agents, said that enemies of the Islamic Revolution were mistaken if they thought they could disappoint the committed Muslim people. On the contrary, he added, such acts would further unite the people.

In the incident, eight shops and the storehouse of a company were completely burnt down and windows smashed within the range of 250 meters from the scene of the incident.

Khalil Karami, 16, one of the street vendors who received injuries in his head, told IRNA that a few minutes after he started working, a big sound threw him some distance away. He added that a number of his friends, also street vendors, were injured in the incident.

After normal situation was established in the area at 11:00 hours (7:30 GMT), Imam Khomeyni's relief committee was stationed there to estimate the extent of the damage.

Thousands of people who had rushed to the scene after the explosion, fully cooperated with disciplinary forces are helped relief workers. The crowd also called for more decisive attitude of judiciary officials vis-a-vis U.S. lackeys. They shouted slogans such as "Armed Monafiq should be executed."

15 Killed, 50 Injured

LD121105 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 May 85

[Excerpt] According to the Central News Unit, in line with imperialism and Zionism's pressure to make the Islamic Republic of Iran agree to a compromise in the imposed war, the agents of world oppression detonated a bomb in Nasser Khosrow Street opposite Shams al-Emarah in Tehran this morning at 0830. According to the Central News Unit reporter quoting Tehran's police chief, the bomb weighed 50lb and was planted in a beige Peykan. According to this report, as a result of this inhuman act 15 of our compatriots, mostly passers by were martyred and 50 were injured. Some of the injured were treated as outpatients. Five shops were destroyed and two commercial buildings caught fire. Also, seven cars were destroyed and one bus, one minibus, and two motorcycles sustained damage.

Bomb Explodes in Azadi Square, No Damage Reported

LD130718 Tehran IRNA in English 0714 GMT 13 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 13, IRNA — A small hand-made bomb went off at Tehran's Azadi Square Monday morning but caused no damages or casualties. The concussion bomb, planted under a tree in the eastern corner of the square, only managed to scatter some dust.

Communique No 2,099 Cites Front Operations

LD101508 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1432 GMT 10 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 10, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces announced in its 2099th communique Friday [10 May] that three Iraqi group bunkers and two observation posts were demolished west of the Arvand River fronts in southern Iran during "the past 24 hours."

The communique further said that Iraqi artillery and mortar positions as well as logistic roads and columns of vehicles were under the heavy fire of the Islamic combatants in all southern fronts and the enemy was unable to move about. Also, engineering equipment of the enemy was hit near Hoseyniyeh and Nahr 'Anbar fronts by the Islamic defenders as a result of which casualties were inflicted upon the Iraqi troops.

In northwestern operational fronts, exchange of heavy fire continued during the said period and it was more intense in Sardasht region. In these fronts, the Islamic defenders silenced Iraqi guns and thwarted their engineering activities in the areas overlooking Marivan.

Movements of enemy units were checked in Western operational regions including Sumar, Halaleh, and Marivan where Iraqi positions and gathering places were fired upon and casualties were inflicted on the enemy. Also on the Mehran front, a group of Iraqi patrol units were repulsed while sustaining casualties, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Further Communique Reported

LD111701 Tehran IRNA in English 1652 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants killed or wounded a number of Iraqi troops and destroyed parts of their bunkers when they opened fire on Iraqi positions and transport columns in the past 24 hours, said the Joint Staff command.

The command communique said the combatants:

1. Controlled Iraqi supply lines and troops movements in Chuman Mostafa and Darband areas of the northern front,

2. Forced Iraqi planes to flee from the Sardasht operational area in West Azarbayjan Province,

3. Forced enemy helicopters to flee Mehran's operational area in Ilam Province,

4. Controlled Iraqi engineering activities in Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar fronts in Bakhtaran Province,

5. Sent patrols in most of the southern fronts,

6. Destroyed four Iraqi bunkers in the Arvand River front in the south, and

7. Kept the heavier fire power in all fronts.

It said the heaviest confrontations took place in the northern front of Sardasht, and the southern fronts of Nahr-Anbar, Kushk, Zayd and the Majnun island.

12 May Communique

LD121659 Tehran IRNA in English 1648 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Saturday barraged Iraqi positions with mortar and artillery fire in the northern front, grounding enemy troop movements, said the Joint Staff Command communique today.

The heaviest confrontation in the area was reported in the Sardasht front.

Iranian combatants in Kani Sheykh area of the central front forced Iraqi patrols to flee and paralyzed their engineering operations in Sumar while keeping enemy positions under constant fire, it said.

In the southern front, Muslim combatants deployed defensive tactics while controlling enemy movements and thwarting enemy efforts to infiltrate Iranian positions.

A group of enemy troops were killed or wounded when their engineering units in Nahr-Anbar, Jofeyr and Hoseyniyeh fronts in the south came under Iranian fire.

Spokesman Denies Shelling Iraqi Cities

LD111736 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 Gmt 11 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 11, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters today denied Iraqi claims that Iran had shelled Iraqi cities.

The spokesman denied Iranian forces shelled Mandali, the Shahabi district, and the village of Ghaznieh in Iraq, on Thursday and Friday.

He said over the period the Iranian artillery did not attack any territory inside Iraq.

Conscription Department Issues 'Emergency' Order

LD111321 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The conscription department of the Gendarmerie issued a statement in accordance with the law of general conscription for defending independence, territorial integrity, and the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran and announced: All the male subjects of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, born in the year 1345 [21 March 1966 to 20 March 1967] will be called up for emergency military service this year. All the male subjects born in the year 1346 are also dutybound to present themselves to the general subscription departments and Gendarmerie garrisons of their birthplace or local area by the end of this year so that their call-up situation is investigated.

IRGC Orders Conscripts To Report 12 May

LD111437 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 11 May 85

[Text] The Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the central region asked all the conscripts, who have registered in the Guards Corps and have received their dispatch papers, to present themselves to the admission department of the central region, in Kheradmand-e Jonubi Avenue, by 0900 tomorrow, Sunday, the 25th of Ordibehesht.

Radio Nejat-e Iran: Truckers Preparing for Strike

GF120820 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] A radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent in Tabriz reports that conditions have appeared leading to a widespread strike by truckers. The truckers and drivers are unhappy because only Turkish truckers can move goods from Turkey to Tabriz. This arrangement allowed the Iranian truckers to take over from that point. However, for some time the regime officials have permitted Turkish trucks to carry their loads to other points in Iran.

After getting the regime's permission for Turkish truckers to carry their goods to all points in Iran, the Turkish truckers have been carrying their loads to Tehran and several destinations in southern Iran, and on their way back have been taking loads at cheaper rates from cities in the south and Tehran to Azarbaiyan and other towns.

This unequal competition by the Turkish truckers, which has opened new ways for regime officials — the authors of this illegal agreement — to make money, has caused anger among the Iranian truckers because despite their repeated complaints to the officials nothing has been done about their demands.

The truckers and their drivers, who like all other Iranians were hit by the war and economic recession, have now been hit by lack of work and employment.

This is happening at a time when the price of imported spare parts for trucks has increased several times during the past few years.

The truckers are forced to purchase smuggled spare parts which cost them several times the normal price.

The Radio Nejat-e Iran correspondent says our truckers, who have no alternative but to go on strike, are preparing themselves for a major strike.

They have decided that along with the strike they must also stop the Turkish truckers from moving cargo within Iran.

This decision by the Iranian truckers makes possible an increase in clashes between the truckers of Iran and Turkey.

In fact, such clashes already have taken place at several points along the highways during the past weeks.

IRNA Cites Benefits for Iranian Truckers

LD121833 Tehran IRNA in English 1709 GMT 12 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 12, IRNA — Steps have been taken by the Ministry of Roads and Transportation to enable Iranian truck drivers to compete with their foreign counterparts. An official of the Ministry of Roads and Transportation announced today that Iranian truck drivers will be exempt from delivering their foreign exchange earned by them in their delivery trips abroad, starting May 22.

According to the current law, Iranian truck drivers have to sell their foreign exchange earnings to the Central Bank.

In return, the official said, truck drivers should remove their extra fuel tanks so they will have to pay for the fuel costs on their way back to Iran.

He also said no foreign trucks with extra fuel tanks will be allowed to enter Iran, beginning at the same time.